



ABOVE: A mystery pussy cat!
(SEE PAGE 30 FOR DETAILS).

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GEM



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THURSDAY, MAY 27TH, 2010



VE Day tree is planted in Ewenny

TO commemorate the 65th anniversary of VE Day, Coun Shelagh Wilson, the chairman of Ewenny Community Council, planted a tree in Corntown.

Afterwards, refreshments were served in the village hall and older residents were able to recall their wartime memories.

War-time music was also played, and several VE Day newspapers were on display.

ML



Coun Shelagh Wilson gets digging for (peacetime) victory!

Former leader loses key scrutiny post as Plaid take the chair

THE former leader of the Bridgend County Borough Council has been deposed as chairman of one of the scrutiny committees.

Coun Cheryl Green led the Rainbow Alliance of Liberal Democrats and Conservatives which ran the council, with some support from independents, from 2004 to 2008.

After they lost control, she became chairman of the cross cutting scrutiny committee, now renamed the strategic partnerships and governance committee.

However, at last week's annual meeting, Coun Green, who is a Lib-Dem, was replaced by Coun Malcolm James, the council's only Plaid Cymru member.

Coun James, who represents Llangynwyd, is affiliated to the Annibynwyr group led by Coun Jeff Tildesley. He won the support of his own group, plus some Labour members, to oust Coun Green.

The only Rainbow Alliance nomination to be successful was Coun Pat Hacking, leader of the Conservative group, who was returned unopposed as chairman of the health and well-being scrutiny committee.

Her husband Terry was less fortunate. He was defeated for the chair of the audit committee by Coun Ella Dodd from the Annibynwyr group, who defeated him last year as well. He was elected vice-chairman last time, but did not stand for that position this year.

The alliance put up candidates for all scrutiny chairs, but none was successful. Coun Bob Burns, who broke away from the Liberal Democrats to form his own Democratic Independent group, held onto the chair of corporate resources, defeating Coun Gerald Davies of the Lib-Dems.

His group also gained the vice-chairmanship of the audit committee, when Carol Davies was elected.

Coun Peter Foley, who also resigned from the Liberal Democrats and is aligned to the Annibynwyr group, retained his chair of the children and young people's scrutiny committee, beating off a challenge from Conservative Ken Watts.

Coun Foley took the chair away from the Lib Dem's Norah Clarke at the last AGM. Annibynwyr's Ken Hunt also retained his chair of the community renewal and environment committee. He beat Wayne Morgan of the Liberal Democrats.

Commenting afterwards, Coun Green said that while she was disappointed to lose her chair of a scrutiny committee, she remained a member of three scrutiny committees and would continue

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

to work hard on behalf of the residents of the borough.

She said: "Our group will continue to hold the administration to account through scrutiny for its decisions. It is a very important process and ensures that the cabinet is accountable for its decisions."

She said that what happened to her was "politics" - "If you can't stand the heat, you should keep out of the kitchen."

"That's what happens in politics. You must always be prepared to lose," she stated.

Coun Green said that it was only last year that members of the Labour

Party had started voting in the elections for scrutiny chairs.

"During Jeff Jones' era as council leader, he took the view that it was up to the opposition to decide among themselves who will chair these committees, and all Labour members abstained."

"The new Labour administration that came in three years ago has changed this."

"I understand that Labour members have a free vote to support the candidate for scrutiny chair of their choice."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

Cannabis raid in Kenfig street

POLICE reported this week that 100 cannabis plants were found at a 'factory' in a house on a Kenfig Hill street.

Commenting on the arrest of a 26-year-old local man, neighbourhood Inspector Alan James said:

"We are very grateful for the alertness of members of the public who informed us of their suspicions and officers were able to take swift action to investigate the scent and seize the cannabis plants."

The man was later released on bail.

Maesteg robbery: COUPLE ARE CHARGED

POLICE are investigating a robbery at Bangor Terrace, Nantaffyllon, at around 1am on Saturday (May 22) when a 47-year-old man was seriously assaulted and his wallet stolen.

They said that a man and a woman (both aged 19) from the Nantaffyllon area, had been arrested and charged in connection with the offence. They were remanded in custody.

Detective Sergeant Paul Mason of Bridgend CID stated: "We are appealing for any witnesses or anyone who may have any information regarding this robbery to contact Bridgend CID on 01656 679518, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

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The former assistant clerk steps up to town mayor!

(SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE 31)

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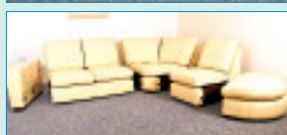
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Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested.

True scale of cuts planned for Wales?

LAST week, Plaid Cymru AM, Chris Franks, was accused of 'scaremongering' about the size of cuts to Welsh public services by new Conservative MP, Alun Cairns – £220m this year.

Would Mr Cairns give that same answer to the independent Auditor General for Wales, who said only a few weeks ago that Wales could expect around £3 billion of cuts during the next three financial years? If so, then it is in direct contrast to what he said on the campaign trail last month, when he

clearly relished immediate cuts of £6bn from UK spending.

Mr Cairns cannot be all things to all people – his Conservative government has already failed Wales at the first hurdle, by not implementing a fair funding scheme that means we continue to lose out by a further £300m per year – money that should, by right, be going to our schools and hospitals.

When job cuts begin, and public services are lost because of a lack of funding from Westminster, there will be nowhere for Mr Cairns to hide. **Dr Ian Johnson** (The writer was the Plaid Vale candidate at the general election)

Calling Brussels' balance sheet to full account

YOUR correspondent's recent encomium on the EU ignores the fact that any money we get from it is only a part of what we gave to it in the first place.

If we kept our own money, not only would more be available for the worthy causes he mentions, but we could spend it as we see fit – and not as we are told by Brussels.

Goodness knows how much of it is lost in EU salaries, expenses, pensions, fraud and plain incompetence as the cash winds its way through the EU's apology for an accounting system.

We may recall that its accounts have not been approved for 14 years. Any government giving millions of pounds a day to such a private company would have ended up in jail decades ago.

Of the 1.7 million invaluable jobs created under New Labour, the Office for National

Statistics says that 1.6 million have been taken by immigrants. (Editor – Daily Express 8/4/2010).

And why do we need the EU to tell us what is safe to eat and drink? Can we not work this out for ourselves?

As to humanitarian aid, if your correspondent had £100 to give to charity, would he pick one himself, let the UK government distribute it, or send it to Brussels?

Finally, what about the EU commissioners who rule our lives now? Proportional representation?

First past the post? If Lord Mandelson is anything to go by, they are elected on the single vote of their best friends.

How do we voters get rid of them? We can't.

The European arrest warrant and habeas corpus, bailing out profligate Greeks and EU doctors too dangerous to be let out are for another time.

RH Bradshaw

Porthcawl Lions put out the call: Charity walkers wanted!



PORThCAWL Lions Club is organising a charity 4K coastal walk on Sunday, June 13, leaving from the Hi-Tide at 12 noon.

Registration for the event will start at 11.30am, and the walk will also finish at the Hi-Tide.

The Lions are hoping that the walk will attract a good crowd of sponsored walkers, with much-needed funds going to Cancer Research UK.

Sponsorship forms are available from **Marcia Leyshon**, on 01656 788377.

ABOVE:

Members of the Porthcawl Lions are pictured pacing out the route of the coastal walk, which will start from the Hi-Tide and follow Eastern Promenade and then along the Esplanade as far as the Shelter at the beginning of Locks Common, and back along the same route.

(Photograph by KEITH E MORGAN)

'Traffic flows better when there are no roundabout lights'

FURTHER to The GEM's front page article by Jayne Isaac on May 20, concerning a requirement from Bridgend Town Council to seek information from Bridgend County Borough Council on changes proposed to roundabouts, it is good to see, at last, some questioning of the actions of BCBC.

Further to correspondence earlier this year concerning roundabouts and traffic lights, the BCBC chose to ignore the comments of many people who wanted lights on Ewenny and Waterton removed and for there to be no installation of traffic lights on any 'improved roundabout' at Broadlands.

In particular, this article mentions reservations about land needed from residents' gardens to accommodate extra queuing lanes.

As has been pointed out in previous correspondence, queues on roundabouts diminish, often to zero, whenever traffic lights on roundabouts are turned off.

So, to mitigate queuing, save fuel, save wear and tear on the roads and vehicles and to increase safety, and to save these residents' gardens,

please turn off existing traffic lights and do not install any more on roundabouts.

The article also states that BCBC has commissioned a report into the impact of traffic flows. It is to be hoped that it is an independent report, rather than one from the transportation policy and development team under the management of John Duddridge – group manager, transportation and engineering.

This would, hopefully, prevent a report which "proves" the policy he seems to support – that traffic lights on roundabouts are a "good" thing.

No doubt the council department concerned has a computer model which will refute that traffic flows more freely and smoothly without traffic lights. However, I doubt whether their model, like most that try to simulate complex situations, would contain all the parameters.

In any case, such a model would be designed to prove the need for traffic lights and might well be supplied by an organisation with a vested interest in showing that need.

From previous incidents of disabled traffic lights, it is intuitively obvious that traffic flow is improved when they are not working.

DN Norman, Porthcawl

Take Fido on a treasure hunt!

FINDING things to occupy children during the school break can be a challenge, which is why Porthcawl Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) is holding a treasure hunt for dogs and families on June 2.

Always looking for new ways to raise much-needed funds, the charity came up with the idea to hold a combined treasure hunt and dog walk, as a fun way to bring families and nature together.

Helga Collier of PAWS explained: "We thought it would be fun to hold an outdoors activity that would keep all the members of family entertained – including the dog!"

The treasure hunt walk will take place at Kenfig Nature Reserve on Wednesday, June 2, starting at 2pm. There is a nominal fee of £1 per adult and 50 pence per child.

The walk will give all the family the opportunity to see birds and insects in the dunes, and answer questions about the reserve to win a prize. Those who want to join in, but don't have a dog, are also welcome.

To arrange to see PAWS cats and dogs in need of homes, contact Helga (dogs) on 078149 26253, or Michelle (cats) on 01656 789391. Alternatively, make a donation to the PAWS charity shop (01656 773307), which is open 9.30am-4pm at 3 Lias Road, Porthcawl.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JUNE 3)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
27 Thur	06.31	9.3	18.56	9.4
28 Fri	07.18	9.4	19.39	9.5
29 Sat	08.01	9.4	20.21	9.6
30 Sun	08.41	9.2	21.02	9.3
31 Mon	09.21	8.9	21.38	9.1
01 Tues	09.56	8.6	22.15	8.8
02 Wed	10.33	8.3	22.55	8.4
03 Thur	11.11	7.9	23.36	8.2

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

LOCAL INFORMATION

MADELEINE MOON MP for Bridgend Westminster office - 02072194417. Constituency office - 47 Nolton Street, Bridgend. Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am - 12pm (by appointment only). Telephone 01656 750002.
HUV IRRANCA-DAVIES MP for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 737777
JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 860034
CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend Constituency office 01656 664320
Bethan Jenkins AM for South West Wales Telephone 01639 643549
BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau, Ground Floor, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend CF31 1JD 01656 654951 – Open: Monday: 10am to 2pm – information only; Tuesday to Friday: 10am to 12.30pm – advice sessions. Tuesday to Friday 12.30pm to 1.30pm – information only.
MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau 01656 734662
POLICE Bridgend 01656 655555
Porthcawl 01656 785411
Maesteg 01656 732122
CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111 (Emergency number 999)
COASTGUARD 01792 366534
GAS (escapes and emergency) 0800 111999
ELECTRICITY (power cuts) 0800 0520400
WATER SUPPLY (emergency) 0800 0520130
FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188
HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
Drinkline 0800 9178282
National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
DASH 01656 650686
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need 01656 785435
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) 01656 662333
MENTAL DISTRESS (Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045
CHILDLINE 0800 1111
NSPCC 0800 800500
RSCPA 0300 123 0744
WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139
Bridgend Carers' Centre 01656 658479
Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend) 01656 651490
BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
Housing service (General enquiries) 01656 643643; (emergencies out of hours) 01656 643643; (homelessness) 01656 643643.
EDUCATION 01656 643643
LEISURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES 01656 642677
HIGHWAYS (drains, blockages etc) 01656 643643
HIGHWAYS EMERGENCIES (outside normal working hours) 07831 143600
SOCIAL SERVICES (general enquiries) 01656 642200
SOCIAL SERVICE EMERGENCIES (outside normal working hours) 01443 204010
HOSPITALS Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend 01656 752752/668090.
Bridgend and District NHS Trust 01656 752752/668090.

VOLUNTARY WORK Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) 01656 810400
TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS
Brackla Community Council 01656 767072
Bridgend Town Council 01656 659943
Cefn Cribwr Community Council 01656 741354
Coity Higher Community Council 01656 656358
Cornelly Community Council 07882 044798
Pyle Community Council 0790 460 4049
Coychurch Higher Comm Council 01656 863418
Coychurch Lower Comm Council 01656 647216
Garw Valley Community Council 01656 736751
Laleston Community Council 01656 656506
Llangynwyd Lower Comm Council 01656 720086
Llangynwyd Middle Comm Council 01656 738804
Maesteg Town Council 01656 732631
Merthyr Mawr Community Council 01656 670058
Newcastle Higher Comm Council 01446 750663
Ogmore Valley Community Council 01656 849402
Pencoe Town Council 01656 869031
Porthcawl Town Council 01656 782215
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Porthcawl questions after supermarket gets go-ahead Council to spend £6,000 on ticket machines for a car park set to disappear!

P O R T H C A W L councillors are questioning why new ticket machines have been placed in the town's main car park – just weeks before the final go-ahead is given for a supermarket to be built on the site.

The new machines have been placed in the Hillsboro Place car park which is earmarked for redevelopment under the Porthcawl Regeneration Plan.

The car park will become the site of the new food store planned as the first phase of the regeneration, and the council is soon due to announce the company it wants to develop the site.

No details of which developer has been chosen have yet been revealed.

Meanwhile, at the car park two new ticket machines costing £3,000 each have been installed – although no money has

been spent for some years on resurfacing the car park or re-marking it, because of the imminent redevelopment.

A council spokesman said that the new ticket machines, which require the registration number of the car to be input, had been installed because the old machines were in a poor state of repair, were "continually breaking down" and proving difficult and expensive to maintain.

Coun Rosemary Deere said that she was unimpressed with the new machines: "I went to the car park last week and one machine was not in use," she said.

"Everyone then had to walk down to the other machine at the bottom of the car park and many people, who did not realise that they needed their car's registration number, then found that they had to walk back to their cars to get the number."

"I put in £1.50p for three hours but only

realised when I returned to the car later that the machine had given me a £1 ticket for an hour.

"No 50p piece came back into the rejected coins section, so it took my 50p but only registered £1."

On a second visit to the car park, the machine nearest to the entrance was again not in use.

"My experience is that these machines are working no better than the old ones, despite £6,000 having been spent.

"I also rang the phone number listed on the machine to report the problem but I got no reply."

Coun Deere said that as the local member she was not consulted about the changes which she felt were a waste of money.

"I fail to see why this action has been taken now after years when nothing was happening and the car park was just left to deteriorate."

"The surface is a disgrace and nothing was done to reinstate the section of the car park following its use as a compound for heavy machinery."

by JAYNE ISAAC



The controversial ticket machine.

"We will be paying for these machines to be moved once the supermarket scheme gets underway."

She was backed by Coun Ken Watts, who said he found it difficult to understand why they had spent £6,000 at this time when everyone knew that these machines would have to be moved within about 12 months.

A council spokesman said that the machines would be used in the future – but because the car park was being relocated, there were no plans to resurface or relime it. Necessary repairs will be carried out on an ad hoc basis.

The disabled bikes will be inspected to see if they need re-marking and an inspection will also be done of the lighting, which is not working in one area of the car park.

'We've got the (pedal) power' – say Porthcawl police

PEDAL POWER is the latest tactic being used by local police, and Porthcawl is leading the way!

Porthcawl Police Station has taken delivery of four specially-adapted mountain bikes and is making extremely good use of them as "fast access suburban patrol vehicles".

A police spokesman said: "The bikes are proving to be very useful and are enabling police officers to react quickly to emergencies and incidents in the Porthcawl, Newton and Nottage area."

"They are especially efficient in pedestrianised areas of town, where it is not possible for a patrol car to enter."

In fact, Porthcawl Police are so pleased with the new bikes that they have applied to Porthcawl Town Council for financial help to enable them to buy four more similar, but smaller and lighter models for the use of women police officers. The special bikes cost £350 each.

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN



ABOVE: Sergeant Mike Davies and PCSO Leighton Rees on their bicycles, after racing down John Street to arrest a suspect, who was later charged with shoplifting.

Fundraising weekend for disabled riders



LEFT: Countrywide's Emma Underwood, Riding for the Disabled Association volunteer, Glenda Thompson (left) and disabled rider, Gordon Foster-Blyth (and Dillon the horse), saddle up for the Countrywide Fundraising Charity Weekend in Bridgend, which will raise funds for the Riding for the Disabled charity.

A FUNDRAISING weekend to support the charity, Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA), will be held on May 28-31 in Bridgend.

RDA is Countrywide's charity of the year and it is dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities through the provision of horse riding and carriage driving. RDA is reliant on voluntary help and donations to deliver its services.

Wendy Kupinski of the Bridgend Countrywide store on South Road explains: "RDA is an amazing charity which really transforms people's lives and we have set ourselves the target of raising £50,000 for them in one year."

"Over the Bank Holiday weekend, this fun, fundraising event will take place at our store with a bouncy castle, a raffle to win Joules clothing and gift vouchers, the chance to see miniature ponies and staff will be in cowboy and Indian fancy dress."

Man arrested on suspicion of £1million fraud

POLICE said this week that a 47-year-old man had been arrested on suspicion of investment fraud in excess of £1 million.

"Following a detailed investigation by eight officers from the South Wales Police economic crime unit, search warrants were conducted at domestic and commercial premises in the Cowbridge area, in which computer equipment was seized to help with enquiries," a spokesperson revealed.

"The alleged offences are said to have taken place over a four-year period, and relate to the misplacement of investments."

"Currently, police are dealing with allegations from six families in the south Wales area. The suspect is currently in custody at Cardiff Bay Police Station," the spokesperson added.

Three (speakers) for the price of one!

SEVERAL members went to the half yearly council meeting at St David's Hall, attended by 750 members of WI, representing 107 institutes from Glamorgan.

The first speaker, consultant Peter Bowen Simpkins, gave a talk about issues that affect many women – HRT, the menopause and hysterectomy. He illustrated his talk with some amusing pictures.

Jamie Owen from BBC Wales talked about his journey around Wales, and he was fol-

News from MERTHYR MAWR WI

lowed by Ruth Jones of 'Gavin and Stacey' fame.

Ruth spoke about her life growing up in Porthcawl, at Warwick University and her jobs before the success of the Gavin and Stacey series.

Activities this month included a visit to Seasons restaurant, for a meal courtesy of students of Bridgend College, and a visit to the Millennium Centre to see a performance of Hairspray.

At the May resolutions meeting, Gwerfirl

Gardner led the discussion on the resolution: "This meeting urges HM Government to introduce clear and mandatory country of origin labelling on all meat, poultry and fish products sold in this country." The resolution was unanimously carried.

President Margaret Batten reminded members about the link meeting, at Colwinston Hall on May 18, when the speaker will be 'The Singing Speaker'.

The next meeting will be on June 2 at Ewenny Community Hall, when the speaker will be Glenda Clwyd, harpist.

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Bridgend are the tops at accident rescue!



The Porthcawl extrication team – in their new kit.



ABOVE and BELOW:
Champions Bridgend show how its done by successfully extricating the crash victim from their simulated accident

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN



ABOVE: Bridgend Fire Service extrication team, winners of both challenge competitions with Deputy Chief Fire Officer Kevin Barry (second from left) and station manager, Tim Pedrick, (far right).

BRIDGEND Firefighters were double champions recently when they swept to victory in both the regional and national 'Extrication Challenge' events.

Local rivals Porthcawl had been training hard to challenge for the honour of best in the borough, but it was Bridgend who caught the judges' eyes.

The extrication challenge competitions were held at the South Wales Fire Service Training Centre, Cardiff Gate, earlier this month.

Two challenges were being competed for, with each lasting 20 minutes.

Scrap cans, emptied of fuel and drained of oil, are used to simulate the accidents.

The crash victims were all trained

Fire Service accident inspectors.

The first event was the south Wales Inter-station Challenge, where the first two teams go on to represent south Wales at the UKRO National Extrication Challenge, in Hampshire in October.

The winning team was Bridgend, with Aberdare in second and Porthcawl in third. Malpas were fourth.

The second event was the All Wales Regional Challenge, and the same two teams came top again, with Bridgend once again the winners ahead of Aberdare.

Porthcawl were third, ahead of mid and west Wales (fourth) and Malpas (fifth).



Porthcawl takes third place award

ABOVE: Deputy Chief Fire Officer Kevin Barry presenting third prize to Peter Bevan, crew manager of the Porthcawl Fire Service extrication team.

Wing mirror vandals hunted in Porthcawl

PORHCWL police are hunting vandals after several cars parked on town streets had their wing mirrors damaged.

The damaged vehicles were parked on Picton Avenue, Blundell Avenue and Green Avenue at around 11.30pm on Friday, May 21.

Police are appealing

for witnesses or any information regarding these incidents, stated Police Sergeant Dave Williams, Neighbourhood Inspector in Porthcawl.

"Patrols have been stepped up in the area and if anyone sees someone behaving in an unusual or suspicious manner, they should contact the police immediately.

"Mindless vandal-

ism caused to vehicles at night is a great cause for concern and a large percentage of this damage is being caused to wing mirrors," he warned.

Anyone who may have information, is asked to contact PS Williams at Porthcawl police station on 101, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

College tackles classic musical

BRIDGEND School of the Creative Arts is putting on a production of *A Chorus Line* at the Parc and Dare Theatre, Treorchy.

The students have been working hard at fundraising, including a talent show, raffles etc, but what they really need

is to sell tickets for a show full of music, singing and dancing!

A Chorus Line is being performed at 7.30pm on Friday, May 28, at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. On Saturday, May 29. Ticket prices are £8 for adults and £6 for concessions.

Contact the Parc and Dare box office on 08000 147 111.

WE ARE NOW ONLINE!
Read your GEM online at:
bridgend-today.co.uk
or porthcawl-today.co.uk

Colwinston pupils' prize



THE children of year-4 at St David's C-in-W Primary School in Colwinston recently entered the annual schools wheelbarrow competition, run by the Royal Horticultural Society in conjunction with the Legal and General. More than 60 stunning wheelbarrows were exhibited in Bute

Santander – 3 Adare Street, Bridgend – replacement signage converting Alliance & Leicester site to Santander.

Mr M Shajahan – 1A Coegnant Road, Maesteg – change the use from office/shop to Indian takeaway.

Mr LP Rowland – 1 The Croft, Aberkenfig, Bridgend – increase size of existing garages.

Mr S Homeyard – 83 Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend – two storey extension to side of property.

Mr P Morgan – 62 Birch Walk, Porthcawl – retrospective to retain alterations to balcony, including all related fixtures, fittings, screening and staircase.

Mr B David – 88 Pysgah Street, Kenfig Hill – to extend the planning

appeal decision for a further five years (for nine flats with car parking).

Mr K Rymer – 19 Moriah Place, Kenfig Hill – detached dormer bungalow with sun room and detached garage (amendment to approval P/08/92/FUL).

Mr M Bradford – 7 Hong Kong Terrace, Bryncethin, Bridgend – single storey rear side extension, rebuild rear double storey and loft conversion to main house roof space.

Mr S Rajasubeshan – 78 Ewenny Road,

Bridgend – proposed entrance porch to front. Mr R Benyon – 8 Heol West Plas, Litchard, Bridgend – change of use of first floor dwelling unit into commercial hair salon.

Mrs D Hatch – 107 Graham Avenue, Penyfa, Bridgend – single storey extension to front elevation.

Mr D Atkinson – 20 Woodland Avenue, Porthcawl – single storey lean-to roof kitchen/dining extension.

Mr L Manning-James – 17 Celtic Road, Maesteg – rear dormer extension.

Mrs Bolton – 107 Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend – two storey extension to side and single storey extension to rear.

Mr C Lewis – land off Bettws Road, Llangeinor, Bridgend – three wooden stables, tack room and a barn.

A bus to the Brecon Beacons

THE Bridgend County Borough Council is again supporting the Beacons Bus service that takes local people up into the heart of the national park.

Between now and October 3, the service will offer passengers the chance to enjoy regular Sunday and Bank

Holiday trips to the town of Brecon.

Free concessionary bus passes are valid on all of the Beacon Bus trips, and two services will be available. Timetables are available on request at Bridgend Bus Station.

For full details, visit www.travelbreconbeacons.info or call 01873 853254.

LETTER OF APOLOGY RECEIVED

Zebra crossing critic a road safety officer

A PORTHCAWL resident who wrote to Porthcawl Town Council questioning the need for a zebra crossing on Newton Nottage Road has now revealed himself to be a road safety officer employed by Bridgend County Borough Council.

The council initially received a letter from Mr JS Ladbroke of Danygraig Avenue in February, in which he referred to discussions taking place within the town council about the possibility of installing the crossing near Marpit Lane.

Mr Ladbroke said that this scheme would not benefit the majority of Porthcawl residents, yet the council was spending the "rates" on it.

He wrote: "Being a resident of Newton, I have travelled Newton Nottage Road at innumerable different times during the day and night for many years and cannot recall seeing the number of pedestrians wishing to cross this road which would warrant the installation of formal crossing facilities."

Mr Ladbroke asked how many pedestrians actually cross the road at this location.

He observed: "If, as I suspect, the number will be very low, I would question the credibility of spending a large amount of public purse money to provide a crossing facility for a very small number of persons."

He added that if crossings are installed in areas of low pedestrian movement, motorists got used to not stopping and this could impact on road safety detrimentally.

His letter was discussed at the following meeting and was reported in the press.

Coun Norah Clarke supported him and said that she herself questioned the need for the crossing at this point.

But Coun Alana Davies said that she had been lobbied by residents and had been fighting for this crossing for years.

Mr Ladbroke has now sent a further letter to the council in which he says that he has a vested interest in road safety as he is a retired police officer of 25 years experience, with 15 of those years as a roads policing officer.

His work included investigating traffic collisions and submitting

by JAYNE ISAAC

reports to traffic management police officers regarding road safety concerns.

He said that he now works for BCBC as a road safety officer and went on: "I feel that my qualifications vastly outstretch that of Coun Norah Clarke who, I believe, was outspoken against me without good cause."

"No, I have not stood at the side of the road for 24 hours, but has she? I seriously question the erection of a crossing facility to assist a very small number of persons to cross the road."

He said that as a member of the community and taxpayer, he was entitled to ascertain how his council tax was being spent.

He added that councillors should make decisions objectively and if they criticise members of the public who have voiced their concerns, the council should create an open door policy enabling residents to approach them.

Clerk Alison Leyshon pointed out that Mr Ladbroke had subsequently e-mailed her to say that he wanted the name in his letter changed to Coun Alana Davies, as he had got confused about which councillor had criticised his stance.

Coun David Deere said that everyone was entitled to their views about what the council was doing.

"I am surprised that he now informs us that he is a road safety officer. I am wondering if he would have any influence on the negotiations that we will have with BCBC over this crossing."

Coun Deere said that the original draft of his letter, which criticised Coun Clarke, had been published as part of the council's agenda and was in the public domain.

"Norah Clarke is, in my view, entitled to a public apology. It's all very well for him to say that he withdraws the criticism of her, but her name is published in our correspondence."

"Coun Alana Davies also has to take a view about how she wants to deal with this."

Coun Deere said that the council should write to BCBC, as Mr Ladbroke is employed by them and express the view that he should have no influence in the decisions being taken by BCBC on this matter. He said that there should

also be an apology to Coun Clarke from Mr Ladbroke.

Coun Chris Smart said that the press had published the story when his original letter came up and included quotes from both councillors.

"I don't understand how this bizarre error occurred as the newspaper articles were very clear. It's a strange error from someone who holds a senior position in the local authority."

"I am surprised that a road safety officer would want to get involved in this way although he is, of course, also a taxpayer of Porthcawl."

Coun Gerald Davies said he understood Coun Clarke would accept an apology and he felt she was due one.

He said that Coun Alana Davies must also be made aware of this as she was not at the meeting and would not know that her name had been brought up, as it was not in the letter that was in the council papers.

"We should also advise Mr Ladbroke that we are referring some aspects of his letter to BCBC."

Coun Clarke said she was named in the report that went out to the public and would like an apology to appear also in official council reports.

She added that she was the only councillor who supported his original letter and agreed with him.

She went on: "I also fail to understand how he can say that he is more qualified than me. He does not know what qualifications I hold. I don't see how he can talk about people like that."

Coun John Bunker said he was "amazed" to find that Mr Ladbroke worked for the council. He asked: "Is the council a home for retired policemen?"

Coun Gerald Davies said that if Mr Ladbroke apologised, his letter would be agenda and reported in the press.

The council has agreed to send the issue of the pedestrian crossing to its capital projects committee. The council has received a rough estimate from BCBC and has been told it will cost about £26,000 to install the crossing.

A letter of apology has subsequently been received by Coun Clark from Mr Ladbroke and is on the agenda for discussion at tonight's meeting of Porthcawl Town Council.

Former leader of the council is defeated...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Coun Green added: "I have to say that when I was council leader, I also shared Jeff's view that it was not the business of the ruling party to decide who should scrutinise our actions, but Labour members are within their rights to vote."

Coun Green pointed out that the Annibynwyr, which includes a number of former Labour councillors, had ended up with four chairs – one more than would be allocated under a proportional system.

"Under that, they would get three," she said. "I am a supporter of this being done in proportion to the number of seats a group has."

The Liberal Democrats and Conservatives, with independent Peter Evans, have more than half the seats – but we have ended up with one chair out of the six. We should have had three.

"The Democratic Independents, with three members, have one chair of scrutiny and a vice-chair of audit."

She pointed out that all the seats on the scrutiny committee are allocated on a proportional basis, with each party or group told how many seats they can have and then putting forward the people they want.

"The whole matter is being reviewed by the Welsh Assembly at the moment and there is a strong view that scrutiny chairs should be proportional, so maybe the sys-

tem in Bridgend will have to change in time."

Coun Mel Nott said that there was no group decision on whether to vote or not vote for scrutiny chairs and it was entirely a matter for individual Labour members to decide as they saw fit. He said that the cabinet members do not take part in the process.

He added that some members had abstained while others had voted. "Labour members have exercised this choice since the inception of the current Labour administration in 2008. There is nothing in the constitution of the council which prevents members from taking part in the process."

He added that during the Rainbow Alliance administration, one of its supporters proposed an alternative to Coun Chris Michaelides as a scrutiny chair, but the proposal was not seconded.

● There is also an important financial element involved in the election of committee chairs. They get an extra £9,708 on top of the councillors' basic allowance of £13,868.

There is an additional allowance of £9,708 for the leader of the main opposition party, which goes to Coun Tildesley of the Annibynwyr.

The leaders of the two other main parties – Liberal Democrats and Conservatives – also get £4,161 each, because their parties with six members each constitute more than 10 per cent of the 54-strong council.

CHARITY NIGHT RAISES FUNDS TO FIGHT CANCER

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN



ABOVE: Bobby Lewis, Coun Mary Emmet-Lewis, singer Natasha Spencer-George and Dave Smith, Porthcawl's own Elvis tribute artist.

PORTHCAWL mayor-elect Coun Mary Emmet-Lewis, organised a charity night at the Hi Tide Inn, Porthcawl earlier this month, in aid of Cancer Research Wales.

The function was introduced by Coun Emmet-Lewis, and was opened by the then Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Rosemary Deere.

Dr Tony Williams of Cardiff kicked off the evening with a game of 'heads and tails' to raise funds for Cancer Research Wales.

The game ended with just one person standing, Helen George, who won a bottle of wine while the game raised £100.

Entertainment was provided by singer Natasha Spencer-George and Dave Smith, Porthcawl's own Elvis impersonator.

In total, the charity night raised £860 for



The mayor draws a winning ticket.

Cancer Research Wales.

A cheque for this amount was initially presented on the evening to Heather Broadbent, breast care nurse specialist, Neath-Port Talbot Hospital, who requested that Coun Wales.

Emmet-Lewis present the cheque to Velindre Hospital, Cardiff. This Mary subsequently did at Velindre Hospital, handing it to Liz Andrews, fundraiser for Cancer Research Wales.

BELOW: Heather Broadbent (left) with Coun Deere and Coun Emmet-Lewis.



ABOVE: Coun Mary Emmet-Lewis at Velindre Hospital with Liz Andrews.

Interactive film is launched by media students

BRIDGEND County Borough Council has launched an innovative interactive film entitled 'Get In My Head', which puts you in control of one of the two leading characters, making choices that will determine their destiny.

Produced with the help of first year national diploma media students from Bridgend College, the storyline will show how the misuse of alcohol around young people can lead to anti-social behaviour, and aims to make young people realise how this affects the elderly, as it can create feelings of mistrust and fear.

A council spokeswoman said: "'Get In My Head' puts you in the driving seat, where you follow a story that is based on the decisions you make."

"You can play either

17-year-old Shaun or 65-year-old Ron. Two different characters, two different points of view, and depending on the character you play, you can make the choices that affect the character during key points of the story."

The prime objective of the film is to get the viewer to consider his or her actions, think how it might affect other members of the community and how respect can be gained between different age generations.

Will Ron make a friend and will Shaun win the girl?

Only you decide! Play now by visiting www.bridgend.gov.uk/art or picking up a DVD at any Bridgend county borough library (and stand a chance of winning a £50 Argos voucher by completing the questionnaire linked to the film).

Pops and Piggy go walkies to raise money for the Lifeboat!

POPS the Jack Russell and his master Paul 'Piggy' Brooks, will be taking a mammoth sponsored walk on Saturday, June 12.

Setting off at 5am from Porthcawl lifeboat station, they are aiming to complete 28 miles along the coastal path by teatime.

They are motivated by the knowledge that the hundreds of pounds raised will help to provide local lifeboatman 'Piggy' and his crew mates with vital equipment they need to save lives at sea.

A few friends and fellow volunteers will join Piggy at Aberthaw to help him walk the last



Piggy and Pops - in training for their marathon walk.

few miles to the Barry Dock Lifeboat Station, piggybrooks@hotmail.co.uk

Alternatively, cheques can be sent to: Piggy's Walk, Barry Dock Lifeboat Station, The Pier Head buildings, Barry Dock, Barry, CF62

If you are able to support Piggy, contact him on 07989 408742 or 5QS.

Promenade Princess shunted to Bridgend

THE road train in Porthcawl has hit the buffers. The Promenade Princess, which used to run from Coney Beach along the Western Promenade and then along the Esplanade up to Rest Bay, did not run at all last summer because it needed extensive repairs.

Former borough councillor, Avril Lake, has contacted Porthcawl Town Council to point out that the train is very unlikely to run again and that its parking bay outside Esplanade House on the seafront is now redundant. Cars were parking in it, sometimes all day.

She said that this bay should be re-designated for short stay parking, enabling cars to pull up for 20 minutes, which would help local residents and visitors by freeing up extra parking space in an areas of town where it is at a premium.

Mrs Lake said that the borough council would probably argue that it has no money available for the re-signing of the bay and suggested that it be taken on as a project funded by the town council.

But town councillors heard that this was a matter for BCBC and it was agreed to forward her e-mail to Bridgend.

Sound of music SITTING in the lovely gardens of the Simpsons' family home in the village of Llangan, the story of a life involved in music unfolded.

Paul began his musical career at the tender age of nine years, when his father bought him his first set of drums, costing a mere £35.

Paul's first engagement was with the school band and was paid seven shillings and sixpence for three nights. The band was called *Scholastics*.

Paul was becoming well known as a proficient player and at the age of 13, he had a new set of drums, this time costing £139.

Paul's success continued, and he became associated with various bands: when he was 17, he played at Sophia Gardens Pavilion in a show celebrating Prince Charles's investiture.

Paul's drum solo brought an audience of over a thousand to their feet. Following that performance, he was invited to play before Princess Anne at the



ABOVE, Paul on drums.

Royal Albert Hall. Paul told me he had been inspired by the great Buddy Rich.

In recent years, Paul has played in soul bands, and he now plans to seek out other musicians to form a new band to concentrate on jazz performances.

If any GEM reader is interested, please contact Paul on 07971 086464.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, 'Tynewydd', Llangan. (01656) 860303



Good and bad! AT last, the road leading to Llangan and Treoes has been repaired - but alas, Treoes Village will have to wait a little longer for the repair work to be completed.

The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales (WTSWW) is dedicated to improving the environment for people and wildlife, and looks after Parc Slip Nature Reserve, in Tondur.

The trust is running an eco-fair at Parc Slip on Wednesday, June 2, between 11am and 2pm.

A spokeswoman for the trust told The GEM: "There will be various stands on the day, including local Beekeepers and eco-clubbing."

"There will also be children's activities, a guided walk around the reserve at 12pm, bird box making and a chance to come face to face with some real live snakes!"

She explained that the trust is a charity that relies heavily on support

COYCHURCH WI NEWS

Rare treat for the branch at Highgrove...

ON April 14, a coach full of members

experienced an enjoyable outing to Highgrove; albeit the weather was rather chilly, everyone toured the magnificent garden learning about some of the unusual plants, and gleaming ideas.

Following a warm welcome to everyone at the May meeting, president Sandra Davidson read the NFWI report concerning the resolution for the legislation for mandatory compulsory and accurate labelling of the country of origin for meat, chicken and fish.

A debate followed and the 41 members present voted unanimously in favour of the resolution.

Sandra reported on the following: the coffee morning held on May 6 was a financial success, also schedules and advance tickets for the Glamorgan Show to be held at North

Cornely Community Centre and Public Hall on August 28 are available at £2 each; the theme is 'Down the Garden Path'.

Details were related

of the summer outing to Newbury, with a boat trip en-route on the river Kennet.

Sue Elworthy gave a brief outline of the GFWI meeting held on April 24 where Jamie Owen was the surprise guest.

The next council meeting will be held in Barry in October.

A letter of thanks was received from Sue Deenik-Carmichael. The evening concluded with a finger buffet and a quiz.

Diary dates.

NFWI AGM, CIA, Cardiff, Wednesday June 2.

Croquet tournament, Dyffryn Gardens, Cardiff, Monday June 7.

A day at the races, Ffos Las racecourse, Trimsaran, Thursday June 17.

Glamorgan Quiz, H-tide Inn, Porthcawl, Wednesday June 30.

For further information on any of the activities, please contact Sandra Davidson on 01656 669232.

Coychurch WI meets on June 1 at 7.30pm in the Williams Memorial Hall.

The guest speaker will be Carla Price, the topic 'Welsh Folk Museum - St Teilo's Church'. New members are warmly welcomed.

Wildlife Trust welcomes the Tondur helpers

A LEADING south Wales wildlife trust, which looks after a local nature reserve in Tondur, is looking for volunteers to support its work.

The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales (WTSWW) is dedicated to improving the environment for people and wildlife, and looks after Parc Slip Nature Reserve, in Tondur.

The trust is running an eco-fair at Parc Slip on Wednesday, June 2, between 11am and 2pm.

A spokeswoman for the trust told The GEM: "There will be various stands on the day, including local Beekeepers and eco-clubbing."

"There will also be children's activities, a guided walk around the reserve at 12pm, bird box making and a chance to come face to face with some real live snakes!"

She explained that the trust is a charity that relies heavily on support

from members and volunteers to manage and conserve more than 80 nature reserves across south and west Wales, including local sites such as Lavernock Point, Coed Gannilwyd and Coed y Bwl.

She continued: "If you have an interest in wildlife and would like to help us protect our local wildlife and environment, then please consider supporting your local wildlife trust."

"You can help by making a small donation, becoming a member or taking part in some voluntary work. Members of the trust receive our magazine 'Welsh Wildlife' - along with our local newsletter and calendar of events three times per year, and also half price landing fees on Skomer Island (another of the reserves managed by WTSWW)."

"Alternatively you can find out more by visiting our website www.welshwildlife.org or by telephoning 01656 724100."

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk



Women's Institute

EUNICE WILLIAMS opened the Aberkenfig and District Women's Institute meeting on May 12 when 'happy birthday' was sung to Eileen and Meryl.

The main business was the resolution that - 'This meeting urges HM Government to introduce clear and mandatory country of origin labelling on all meats, poultry and fish products sold in this country.' The resolution was unanimously passed.

The raffle was won by Nancy and Sally and the competition for an item beginning with the letter 'L' was won by Dorothy with a very pretty lamb.

June 16 is the date for the annual lunch at the Nicholls Arms in Coytrahe and Eunice thanked the tea hostesses Peggy, Kitty and Hilary.

The next meeting is on June 9 when the speaker will be Jane Thorpe, whose subject is 'Work as a Magistrate'. The competition will be for an item beginning with the letter 'U'. As this meeting is the 29th anniversary of

Aberkenfig WI, there will be a birthday tea.

New members and visitors are welcome at 2pm on the second Wednesday of each month at the Welfare Hall, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig.

Eco fair

AN eco fair will be held at the South and West Wales Wildlife Trust's at the Parc Slip visitor centre, Tondur on June 2.

There has been one advantage to the recent hard winter; I don't think I have seen such a varied profusion of wild flowers on this reserve as this year.

I have also seen a red kite hovering above, and regularly see a heron stalking prey as the water levels have dropped.

Choir concert

GARW Valley male choir will be performing with the band of the South Wales Police in the Bridgend Recreation Centre on June 19, to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the British Legion.

Information on the choir can be obtained on its website www.cormeibioncwm-garw.co.uk

Choir's AGM

THE Ogmore Valley male voice choir recently held its AGM at the Canolfan Bethlehem. Chairman Paul Evans and vice chair Alan Evans were unable to continue on the choir's committee because of

employment commitments.

The choir members thanked them for all their efforts and wished them well in the future.

Vyron Evans was voted in as the new chairman, and the following were re-elected: Trefor Thomas (treasurer), John Jones (general secretary), Phil Davies (functions secretary), and Derek Brain (choir marshal) along with Byron Evans, Ralph Morris, Robert Da

The treasurer went through the auditor's report, answering questions from choir members on each item.

He thanked BAVO for the grants that had enabled internal redecoration of the building and for installation of a stair lift, for disadvantaged members of the public and elderly members of the choir.

The treasurer also informed the members that through their efforts they had managed to raise £9,310 at various charitable functions in the last year to help others.

The retiring vice chair, Alan Evans, paid tribute to musical director, Eira Paskin, and accompanists Debbie Lewis and Catrin Eleri Jenkin. He was pleased that a number of new members had joined the choir.

The choir rehearse at the Canolfan Bethlehem centre, Commercial Street, Ogmore Vale on Thursdays at 7pm, and visitors are welcome.

School meeting

TYNYRHEOL Primary School headteacher, Martin Griffiths, is inviting all responsible relatives of pupils to attend an important meeting at the school today (May 27) where the following items will be on the agenda: the possibility that classes will be reorganised next September; the school inspection; and results of questionnaires that had been distributed to everyone associated with the school.

Congratulations to the following pupils who had excelled in basketball: Liam Davies, Tyanna Riddiford, Lauren Chard and Morgan Chard who were selected for the Bridgend District schools trials.

Morgan Chard has subsequently been selected to play for the Bridgend District schools and will be playing in a mini basketball tournament in Stoke next month.

Congratulations also go to Liam Davies on winning the 'design a logo' competition for the new Llanganor community wildlife garden.

The school will be breaking up for half term

holidays tomorrow (May 28) and returning on June 7.

Story time!

TONDU primary school headteacher Mrs Sue Pilcher, is looking for responsible male relatives of pupils to volunteer to read to children at the school from June 14-20, father's story week.

Please contact Miss Handley who will arrange a suitable time and place for them to read their favourite story to a small group of children.

Mrs Tuck's class invite all responsible relatives of pupils in her class to attend their assembly today at 10.20am, everyone will be welcome to have a cup of tea or coffee afterwards!

The school also welcome donations of clean two litre soft drink bottles to help the pupils construct a greenhouse as part of the school's environmental project.

Details reminder

OGMORE Vale primary school Head Paul Booth, would like to remind responsible relatives of pupils at the school please can they inform the secretary of any changes to their personal details such as address, home telephone number or mobile numbers.

This is important in case their child has an accident or is taken ill at the school and they have to be contacted in an emergency.

He would also like to inform relatives that a new contract has been awarded to Glyn Jones Coaches, for transport to and from the school.

Millennium Stadium

THREE choirs from the Llynfi Valley have been invited to help lead community singing at the stadium on Saturday June 5 at the start of the Wales v South Africa rugby international in the Millennium Stadium..

They are the Maesteg Gleemen, Cŵr Meibion Maesteg a'r Cylch and Cŵr Yr Hen Blwyf all of whom are busy rehearsing the South African national anthem.

The Maesteg Gleemen, the oldest established choir in the county borough, recently celebrated their 52nd annual concert.

We welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to the Editorial Department at ggem@internet-today.co.uk

NEW MAYOR TAKES OVER THE HELM AT THE PORTHCAWL TOWN COUNCIL



ABOVE: The new mayor with her chaplain, Canon Philip Masson.



ABOVE: The new mayor's consort, Mr Bobby Lewis, is welcomed by his predecessor, Coun David Deere.



BELOW: The new Porthcawl mayoral team (left to right): Deputy Consort Bill Stubbs, Deputy Mayor Coun Barbara Stubbs, Mayor Coun Mary Emmment-Lewis, and Consort Bob Lewis.

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN

A WOMAN who has spent almost all of her life in Porthcawl, has become its new town mayor.

Mary Emmment Lewis has spent her life in the hotel and catering trade and, with her husband Bobby, ran the Atlantic Hotel, until they retired six years ago.

Mrs Emmment Lewis comes originally from Blackwood but the family had a caravan on Newton dunes, and travelled back and forth between the valley and the coast.

When Mary was 12, her mother moved there permanently and obtained a job in the old Bay View Café at Coney Beach, where Mary also worked after school and at weekends.

"We lived in a caravan in Newton and there were seven children in all, my mother and stepfather, and two Alsations," she said.

"It was a bit of a squash, but we kids loved it."

Mary later married her first husband Billy Emmment, whose family had also moved to Porthcawl. She had three children with him.

Mary started work at the Atlantic, training to be a chef, during the time it was owned by the Ashton family.

She worked her way up and later worked in The Seabank for a year, but was invited by Bobby to return to the Atlantic and help run it after he took over.

The couple were later married and between them have five children, as well as 11 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

They now live a short distance from the hotel, further along the

sea front. They are an active couple in the town.

Mary, who sits as a Conservative councillor, is district chairman of Inner Wheel and is also joint secretary of the Porthcawl RNLI.

She works for two afternoons a week in the town's Tenovus Shop.

Mary was elected to the council three years ago and says she is "delighted" to be mayor.

Bobby is president of the town's Rotary Club and is also chairman of the Bridgend Tourism Forum.

Mary said that as mayor, she hopes to act as a catalyst to bring residents together to support the town and work for its good.

She is currently recovering from breast cancer and recently organised a successful fundraising night for cancer research which raised £840 (see page 5).

She said: "I am very grateful to my friends and family who have supported me through a difficult year, but I am looking forward to being mayor for the next 12 months."

"My advice to anyone battling cancer is to look forward and keep busy."

Her chosen charities are Tenovus, LATCH, Porthcawl RNLI, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Porthcawl Stroke Club and Porthcawl YMCA.

Canon Philip Masson will be her chaplain. She was invested with the mayor's chain of office by outgoing mayor Rosemary Deere and Bobby was invested as her consort by David Deere.

Coun Barbara Stubbs was elected deputy

mayor.

Prior to the start of the council meeting, John Berry, the president of Porthcawl YMCA, presented a 'thank you' card, prepared by the children of the Porthcawl YMCA after-school club, to the outgoing Mayor, Coun Rosemary Deere.

Coun Deere completed her second year of office as Porthcawl Town Mayor, and she presented the new mayor with a bouquet



of flowers.

The out-going mayor also presented gifts to the town clerk, Alison

Leyshon and the assistant town clerk, Sarah Watkins.

She presented her

consort, her brother Coun David Deere, with a painting by local artist Peter Millis.



ABOVE: The out-going mayor welcomes her successor.



ABOVE: A parting gift for the mayor from children at the YMCA, presented by Mr John Berry.

New funding will help boost status

A SIX-YEAR package of European funding which will help 'up-skill' local adults already in employment has been accepted by cabinet members at Bridgend County Borough Council.

"The cash, being put forward by the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO), means the council will now work with Bridgend College to offer a 'Working Skills for Adults' programme."

"It's aimed at up-skilling those already working but whose full potential as contributors to economic regeneration can still be developed," a

spokeswoman said.

"It follows the success of the 'Bridges into Work' programme, which aims to engage and up-skill those furthest from the job market to help them gain employment."

The new programme will operate across six local authorities in south east Wales.

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for well-being, added: "This is really good news for people already in the workplace who want to upskill."

"It is also a great example of joint working with partners, including other local authorities and Bridgend College."

You can now read your GEM online at: bridgend-today.co.uk or porthcawl-today.co.uk

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MIDNIGHT SLEEPWALKERS RAISE FUNDS IN CARDIFF FOR THE TY HAFAN HOSPICE

MORE than 1,000 pyjama-clad women took part in the Ty Hafan Midnight Sleep Walk in Cardiff organised by Joanne Eveleigh.

Sporting pink bunny ears and carrying fairy wands, the participants completed an eight-mile circuit of the capital starting and ending at the Millennium Stadium.



ABOVE:
In the Millennium Stadium waiting for the starting gun to sound.



ABOVE:
Signed in, numbered up and ready to go!



ABOVE:
Eileen Bennett and Lana Jones.

RIGHT:
Joanne Eveleigh the event organiser.



BELOW:
Ty Hafan's director of care Jayne Saunders and her friend Mary Woods leading from the front.



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Information Roadshow

Following the public exhibition an unmissable information roadshow will visit the following venues during June and July to provide further opportunities for people to view the details

16 - 21 June
Cowbridge Library, High Street,
Cowbridge

29 June - 5 July
Llantwit Major Library,
Bowerton Road, Llantwit Major

This public exhibition will provide the local community with an opportunity to view the plans and find out more about how the DTC will look.

The exhibition will take place on:

Tuesday 15 June
St Athan Community Centre
Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan
11.30 - 20.00

We hope to see you at the exhibition and if you would like any further information, please contact us:

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VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

'Assembly must focus on waste when cut-backs bite'

EARLIER this week, the Chancellor announced cut-backs to government expenditure because of the spiralling debt.

This year, there has been a need to cut £162m from the Welsh block of £15 billion, a figure significantly less than expected.

Cutting money is a difficult thing to do, but it is something that has to be done because public finances are in the worst state since the Second World War. Out of every £100 the government is spending, £25 is being borrowed.

Clearly, no individual, family or business could carry on this way and government is no different. That is why there is an urgent need to make moves to balance the books.

The government has made a commitment that front-line services needn't be affected, so long as we cut the waste out of



Vale MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers

the 'back office'.

So, what does this mean for the Vale of Glamorgan? When the Assembly Government is considering where to cut back, I will remind them that we already receive one of the lowest levels of support across Wales.

I hope the Assembly will focus on internal waste in their system. They have already acknowledged that they should be able to save several hundred million pounds of waste in their operations.

At my last count, we received £115 less per person from the

Welsh Assembly Government than neighbouring councils. Multiplying this up amounts to some £25m difference every year. Imagine what we could do with that additional funding year on year.

New school buildings wouldn't be a problem and our council taxes could be a lot lower.

My worry is that we are already left short by the Assembly Government and if there are further pressures on their budget, I hope that we won't be squeezed further.

They use the argument that the Vale is more prosperous than other parts of Wales and that we can afford to pay more. I don't accept this.

Building a school or providing refuse services, costs the same here as elsewhere and we are already paying more than our fair share.

This is an area of policy where we need to work together on an all-party basis, to ensure that funding for the Vale is protected.

Did your relatives serve with Royal Observer Corps?

THE Observer Corps was founded 85 years ago this year, in October 1925, to provide visual detection, identification, tracking and reporting of aircraft over Great Britain.

As a result of their role during the Battle of Britain, in April 1941 the Observer Corps was granted the title Royal by King George VI, and the Royal Observer Corps (ROC) became a uniformed civil defence organisation administered by RAF Fighter Command.

Also during that same year, in a change from the policy of the Observer Corps, the ROC undertook to recruit women personnel for the first time.

Initially, the only uni-

forms provided were RAF overalls, with an ROC breast badge, commonly referred to as the 'soup plate' because of its shape and size. Standard issue RAF No.2 Battledress uniforms were issued in a rolling programme over the next two years. For the remainder of the war, the ROC would provide an essential part of Great Britain's air defences.

I am seeking photographs of local people who served with the ROC in WW2 to display as part of the forthcoming 'Armed Forces Day' event at Cardiff Bay on June 26 and can be contacted by telephone or e-mail.

Dr Jonathan Hicks, chairman, Vale Heritage Centre Coalition; tel 07708 255295 or email: ninian27@btinternet.com

LLANBETHERY AND LLANCARFAN COMMUNITY NEWS

WITH the next phases of our restoration in the offing, we need to raise funds for the Saint Cadoc's Restoration Appeal, to ensure that our wall paintings are uncovered and preserved for posterity.

There will be a 'strawberries and Pimm's' party on the Rectory lawn on Saturday, June 5, at 4pm.

There are no tickets, although donations will of course be welcomed. You should also bring a rug or cushion to sit on! Cream teas will also be available.

We are also hoping to hold a concert in the church on the first weekend in July. Cowbridge choir are finalising details, so watch this space!

SAM SMITH

CHILDREN'S SECTION IS GROWING...**Getting ready for the Vale's best-ever Best-Kept battle!**

ACTIVITY is hotting up around Vale villages in the final stages of the annual best-kept village competition, prior to preliminary judging at the end of June.

Prizes of more than £2,000 will be awarded to the winners. The children's section has proved a big success and last year there were 20 entries.

Therefore, it has been decided to give them a special treat with a presentation at Dyffryn Gardens for representatives from all entries.

It will be held on July 7 in the Cory Education Centre, after school. Following a prizegiving and buffet, there will be a practical demonstration in the walled garden by Ceridwen Davies, the supervisor.

She was trained as a volunteer with the National Trust before spending five years at English Heritage.

Ceridwen has been given the daunting task of restoring the area, not cultivated for some time, into an Edwardian country garden, and is well



Ceridwen Davies, chairman Basil Watkins and secretary Richard Skinner.

ahead on this project. Apart from introducing soil improvement and planting vegetables, strawberries and fruit trees, she is also planting dahlias, which have a special place at Dyffryn, as Reginald Cory planted more than 1,000 varieties in 1912 in plant trials for the RHS.

Ceridwen will give practical demonstrations of her skills, as well as showing one of her favourite hobbies – how to build a scarecrow! In the picture (above) she is shown instructing the chairman and secretary how to train peas to grow, using branches.

So, for seniors and juniors, it is just over a month to go before judging starts with the final decision by Major Dan Clayton Jones, chairman of the Cowbridge Physic Garden!

Results will be announced at the annual dinner at Wenvoe Village Hall on Wednesday, July 14.

It is not too late to enter, but please be quick. Contact Richard Skinner on 01446 774820.

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RESIDENT'S COMPLAINT TO COUNCIL**...Litter, litter, everywhere turns beach into a tip!**

CONEY BEACH looks more like Tythegston Tip – due to the amount of rubbish and litter accumulated there.

That's the view of Nottage resident Jeff Watkins of Candleston Close, who has contacted Porthcawl Town Council to report that on a recent Sunday morning, he went for a walk around Porthcawl and at 11am, was at Coney Beach.

"The state of the beach there can only be described as disgusting," he said.

"There were empty beer and cider cans and bottles all over the beach. I also witnessed a large amount of other rubbish, including used nappies and metal shopping baskets. I believed I was looking at Tythegston Tip and not Coney Beach."

He said that any visitors who saw the "tip" would never return to the town.

"How can Porthcawl hope to become a premier resort when one of its main beaches is in such a state?"

"I can say that on this particular morning, I was ashamed to be a

Porthcawl resident," he commented.

His letter will be discussed at the town council tonight (Thursday).

A spokesman for BCBC said that it was generally assumed that the council was responsible for all seven beaches in Porthcawl – but this was not the case. Several beaches – such as Trecco Bay and most of Sandy Bay (the proper name for Coney beach) were pri-

vately-run.

He went on: "All council-maintained beaches in Porthcawl are thoroughly cleansed on a daily basis, as part of the authority's commitment towards a cleaner, green county borough. This is usually carried out in the early morning before visitors start to arrive."

Repeat visits were made in the summer season throughout the day, he added.

Lions' cash for disabled outing

PORHCAWL Lions have raised more than £500 towards the cost of taking a group of disabled people from the area to the Bob Cook Games.

The latest money-raising event was held at Trinity Church, Porthcawl, on Friday, May 21, when the money taken from selling coffee, tea, cakes, etc., amounted to £237.

This year, the Bob Cook Games are being held in Swindon on August 8.

As in previous years, the participants are taken to and from the games in a mini bus funded by Porthcawl Lions Club, whose members also act as assistants to those taking part.

All are confident of doing well and once again returning with medals galore.

Lion Laurence Pearce, one of the organisers of the trip said: "All the participants enjoy the day out and to see the satisfaction they get from taking part is our reward."

The GEM has joined forces with the Dog's Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre. (Telephone 01656 725219)

Gilmore needs an owner with a calm touch

THIS WEEK: Gilmore is just over one-year-old. He's a sensitive young dog, who is nervous in new situations and with strangers – a centre spokesperson writes.

He is also very bright, active and playful. He gets on with other dogs and he would benefit from being homed with a calm, well-adjusted dog to help him settle.

He will need calm and consistent handling and lots of positive training to help build up his confidence. He is housetrained and fine to be left for a few hours, a spokeswoman states.

Type of home needed: He needs an experienced owner who has trained dogs before, and who is willing to continue his training and socialising. He will benefit from living with another dog. He can live with older teenagers, 14 years and over.



'Make Gilmore happy.'

He will need an active owner who can provide him with plenty of exercise. Anyone interested in adopting him will need to visit him a couple of times to allow him time to get to know them.

The trust's annual summer fete & fun dog show will be held on Sunday, July 4, at Margam Country Park (Twyn yr Hydd House Entrance), 11am to 4pm. Telephone 01656 724598.

Travelling display brings the 'green heroes' to Bridgend

A YEAR-LONG photographic exhibition that is making its way around Wales – after a trip to the Smithsonian Folk-Life Festival in Washington DC – has arrived in Bridgend county borough.

Based at BCBC's customer service centre in Angel Street, the Wales Green List features men, women and organisations from across Wales who are carrying out work designed to inspire others to become more sustainable.

A council spokesman explained that they include business leaders, community groups, artists, politicians, campaigners, company directors, members of staff and project promoters, who are all tackling environmental or social issues in their own village or town, or at a regional, national or international level.

The exhibition in Bridgend county borough has been organised by Cynnal Cymru – Sustain Wales and EcoDysgu to highlight the work of these 'green heroes'.

Wales' first ever Green



Doriel Lyddon, Green champion, Julie Lyddon, Coun John Spanswick, cabinet member for communities, and Robert Visintainer of EcoDysgu, enjoy the Wales Green List exhibition 2010.

List was launched in 2009 and the exhibition arrives just as nominations are being sought for the 2010 event.

Coun John Spanswick, cabinet member for communities, said: "The Wales Green List features 52 people who are helping to inspire others to adopt more sustainable ways of living. It includes EcoDysgu's Julie Lyddon, who is the only Green Champion on the list from Bridgend county borough."

You can view the exhibition all this week between 8am-6pm Monday to Friday at the Customer Service Centre in Angel Street, Bridgend.

To find out more about the Wales Green List or make a nomination, visit www.sustainwales.com – the closing date for nominations is September 17. To find out more about the work of EcoDysgu, visit www.ecodysgu.co.uk

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Rhoose Lifeguards hosts Great British Ski Series

EARLIER this month, Rhoose Lifeguards hosted its annual ski race - the first race in the Great British Ski Series.

More than 70 paddlers competed, ranging from juniors through to masters, and the combination of a stiff north-easterly breeze, an incoming tide and a long six km loop made for a real test of both skill and stamina.

Thanks go to all those who took part, to those that helped to organise the event, to Sian for organising the barbecue, drinks and cakes. Special thanks also goes to the IRB crews, Andrew Knowles, Babs Richards, Chris Evans, Simon Perry, Jack Giddings, Mike Williamson and Sam Blake and especially Richie Harrison for bringing a boat up from Saunton to help cover the race.

The results were as follows:

Under-16 boys
6km: 1, Tom Bolt - Portreath - ILS; 2, Jordan Roberts - Hayle - ILS; 3, Chad Bremner - Rhoose - ILS; 4, Matt Trehwella - Hayle - ILS; 5, Matt Hewitt - Portreath - ILS; 6, Joshua Canton - Saunton - ILS; 7, Tom Parker - Rhoose - ILS; 8, Scoob Lark - Woolacombe - Surf; 9, Keiran Knowles - Rhoose - ILS; 10, Ben Jolly - Hayle - ILS; 11, Sean Giddings - Rhoose - ILS; 12, Rowan Miller - Rhoose - ILS.

Under-16 girls - 6km:
 1, Ellie Parker - Woolacombe - ILS; 2, Teg Young - Rhoose - ILS; 3, Grace Clark - Woolacombe - ILS; 4, Charlotte Hewitt - Portreath - ILS; 5, Emily Coran - Hayle - ILS; 6, Lily Nichols - Woolacombe - ILS; 7, Anthea Young - Rhoose - ILS; 8, Emma Braggins - Rhoose - ILS; 9, Caitlin Young - Rhoose - ILS; 10, Kathryn Gardner - Portreath - Surf; 5, Shoreham - Surf; 8, Rob

Under-19 boys
12km: 1, Josh Newing - Portreath - ILS; 2, Freddie Hedger - Woolacombe - ILS; 3, Brandon Lark - Woolacombe - ILS; Retired Charles Grandfield - Rhoose - ILS.

Under-19 girls - 12km:
 1, Eloise Neighbour - Rhoose - ILS; Retired Eva Murphy - Woolacombe - ILS.

Open Men - 18km:
 1, Ivan Lawler - Elmbridge - Surf; 2, Glen Eldridge - Crantock - Surf; 3, Dan Humble - Portreath - Surf; 4, Tim Widdershaven - Portreath - Surf; 5, Shoreham - Surf; 8, Rob

Simon Dark - Bradford on Avon - Surf; 6, Mark Turner - Woolacombe - ILS; 7, Mark Ressel - Saunton - Surf; 8, Colin Smith - Woolacombe - Surf; 9, Ed Evans - Cardiff Bay - ILS; 10, Daniel Latham - Hayle - ILS; 11, James Grandfield - Rhoose - ILS; 12, Simon Jury - Cardiff Bay - Surf; 13, Andy Ferris - Crantock - ILS; Retired Chris Chorley - Bath - Surf.

Open ladies - 12km:
 1, Chloe Bunnett - Independent - Surf; 2, Fay Mills - Woolacombe - ILS.

Masters Men - 12km:
 1, Steve Hardman - Shoreham - Surf; 2, Peter Maycock - Exeter - ILS; 3, Richard Lewis - Bradford On Avon - Surf; 4, Paul Kingman - Independent - Surf; 5, Stuart Sherman - Woolacombe - ILS; 6, Richard Lark - Woolacombe - ILS; 7, Ivan Boddington - Shoreham - Surf; 8, Rob



ABOVE and LEFT: Some of the competitors at the event.

Knott - Bristol CC - Mike Childs - Sker - ILS; 9, Chris Hewitt - Portreath - ILS; 10, Gareth Harris - Sker - ILS; 11, Simon Parker - Rhoose - ILS; 12, Neil Johnson - Dawlish - ILS; 13, Mark Redrup - Woolacombe - ILS; 14, Dawlish - ILS.

Masters ladies - 12km:
 1, Karen O'Donoghue - Harris - Rhoose - ILS; 2, Georgie Redrup - Woolacombe - ILS; 3, Claire Frank - Woolacombe - ILS; 14, Dawlish - ILS.

Open double - 12km:
 1, Hugh Moldrum and Richard Lewis - Pen-y-Bont - ILS; 2, Alison Dark and Sharon Colen - Bradford on Avon - ILS.

Overall team competition:
 1, Woolacombe - 39pts; 2, Rhoose - 21pts; 3, Portreath - 20pts; 4, Hayle - 10 pts; 5, Bradford - 7pts.

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IT'S OFFICIAL AS... First Minister opens Caerau's new school

FIRST Minister Carwyn Jones, AM for Bridgend, will open the new state-of-the-art Caerau Primary School tomorrow (Friday).

The official ceremony follows the first intake of 365 pupils in January. The school boasts specialist classrooms, floodlit all-weather pitch and communal multi-use 'street' area.

It also has a new

Flying Start facility for up to 20 pre-school children. The official opening will include performances by the school orchestra, Key Stage 1 and 2 choirs.

Headteacher John Bibby said: "IT is given high priority as a tool for learning. Our aim is to enable each child to reach their full potential, whatever their skills, interests or attributes may be, give them a passion for

learning and the skills to tackle the challenges that the 21st century holds for them."

Coun Alana Davies, cabinet member for children and young people, added: "I know the whole community is delighted with this lovely new school, which not only provides an excellent setting for the children's education but is a valuable facility for the wider community."

The new 'locality director' will be a vital social link

BRIDGEND County Borough Council and Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board have named Dorothy Edwards as the area's first joint locality director.

Her talk will be to improve the links between the council and the health board to provide better services for older residents, vulnerable adults and people with physical and sensory impairments.

Council Leader Mel Nott said: "The council and health board have traditionally worked together in collaboration for the benefit of local people, as many residents who require adult social care also have a need for

services delivered by the NHS.

"With the significant challenges that we face for meeting current and future demand on our services, pooling our resources makes good sense.

"As part of this approach, we have already developed shared posts for tackling substance misuse and facilities, such as the new Assisted Recovery in the Community centre, which was opened recently by First Minister Carwyn Jones."

The joint locality director will report to the Corporate Director for Wellbeing at Bridgend County Borough Council and to the Director of primary, community and mental health services at the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board.



Dorothy Edwards

Ms Edwards has a background in health service management spanning 18 years, most of which has been spent developing primary care services and planning services in partnership with local government in the Swansea area. "DELIGHTED"

She commented: "I am delighted to be offered this exciting opportunity to bring health and social care services closer together. The new locality arrangements will mean that for the first time, the responsibility for planning and providing social care, front line primary and community health services, as well as a range of hospital services including community hospitals, will be under the same umbrella.

"This will really enable us to focus on providing care within people's own homes and helping them to live independently within their communities."

Win Griffiths, Chairman of Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board, said: "I believe joint working between health and social services is the best way to ensuring that the needs of people for health and social care are properly met.

We already have successful joint working in tackling substance misuse and assisting people to recover in their community. "I hope that by working together, we can provide better health and social care for the Bridgend community area."

Members have Hairspray after three speeches!

LALESTON WI NEWS

AT the May meeting, a report was given by delegate Margaret Williams on the spring council meeting of GFWI held at St David's Hall on April 22; 766 members were present representing 107 institutes.

The morning guest

speakers were Mr Peter Bowen Simpkins, a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist, and Jamie Owen from the BBC, who were most entertaining.

In the afternoon session, the speaker was Ruth Jones, who told of her life and that she had acted at school and obtained a degree at Warwick.

All who attended said it had been a good meeting. Later that day, 11 members of Laleston attended a performance of Hairspray at the Millennium Centre.

The annual dinner was held in the gardening club on April 29.

This year, the NFWI AGM will be held at the CIA on June 2. Marlene Davies will be the delegate for Laleston and the link group. There is only one Resolution and that is with regard to the world British on food labelling in the shops. It should be a legal requirement that the labelling is for goods reared and grown in Britain and not imported from abroad in the first instance. After discussion, members voted for the Resolution.

The president mentioned that the WI show at North Cornelly will be on August 28 and those who attended last year reported that it was an excellent show and well worth attending.

The next meeting will be on June 3.

THE 'COAST WITH THE MOST'!

WE'VE all heard of the Ivory Coast, the Gold Coast, the Amalfi Coast now, say hello to the Adrenaline Coast!

That's the name given to the stretch of coast stretching from Swansea around Swansea Bay to Porthcawl.

BCBC is one of the councils that have signed up to this £4m scheme to attract watersports enthusiasts to the area. The initiative is intended to make the region a centre of excellence for sports like sailing, canoeing, rafting, surfing and wind surfing.

Porthcawl harbour and Rest Bay will be developed under the plan, together with Knab Rock in Mumbles and Swansea beach.

Funding has been made available from the European Regional Development Fund, Welsh Assembly Government and local authorities.

Improvements in Porthcawl harbour will include a new lock gate and pontoons. At Rest Bay, a new beach access ramp will be provided along with beach showers.

An Adrenaline Coast festival will take place, mainly based in Porthcawl.

It is hoped that all the schemes will be up and running by the end of 2012 following consultation with all the key groups.

The Adrenaline Coast is one of a series of projects around the Welsh coast, costing £17.5m, to improve visitors' seaside experiences.

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Celebrating the work of volunteers in the borough

LOCAL voluntary groups are seeking volunteers to help support the vital work that goes on in and around the Bridgend borough.

Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations, together with over 20 local voluntary and community groups, are coming together to celebrate National Volunteers' Week, June 1-7, by holding a special 'Volunteer Information Days' in Bridgend town centre, on June 4-5 from 10.30am - 3pm.

Spokeswoman Andrea Queeley said:

"The two day event will give voluntary organisations the chance to highlight any volunteering opportunities they have available as well as offering individuals a chance to find out how easy it is to volunteer in their community.

"Sometimes people want to volunteer, but they are worried volunteering may take up all their free time. In fact, many people still don't know that BAVO hosts a Volunteer Centre in Commercial Street, Maesteg and the friendly staff can answer all those questions.

"People are welcome to come and talk to us, or pick up some information on either of the days - no obligation! People can gain so much from volunteering, so it is well worth exploring if you are looking at gaining new skills or devel-

oping existing skills volunteering can help.

"Without volunteers, voluntary and community organisations would not survive and would struggle to carry out the important work that they provide to individuals in the Bridgend borough.

"Volunteers are involved in a diverse range of activities e.g. managing projects, working in a charity shop, running a youth or community project, being a committee member of a voluntary organisation, being involved in a befriending or mentoring project or a children's playgroup, or an

environmental project," she stated.

BAVO also has many volunteer opportunities for young people aged 16-25 that are supported by GwirVol and the Millennium Volunteer Programme. The Millennium Volunteer Programme gives young people recognition at 50, 100 and 200 hours that is achieved over a year.

Anyone interested in volunteering can telephone the Volunteer Centre and speak to Sharon or Karen on 810400 or alternatively, visit the Wales Volunteer website www.volunteering-wales.net.

Mixed weekend for Pencoed

IT was a mixed weekend this week for Pencoed in league action.

The first team had a comfortable win at home to Cefn Forest. Batting first, Pencoed scored a healthy 227-5, with skipper Richard Gregory top scoring with 41 not out.

He was well supported by Rhys Morgan with 40 and Rhys Thomas with 38. In response, Cefn Forest collapsed to 57 all out, with Layton Williams taking 4-17, youngster Jack Frewen 3-9 and Dean Oram 2-17.

In contrast, the second team suffered a disappointing defeat at Abertillery. Batting first, the openers Martin Mills (36) and Wayne Thomas (45) made a decent start with a 100-run opening partnership.

After this they collapsed to 192-8, with only Graham Davies with 39 not out offering any support. Abertillery easily reached the total with nearly 10 overs to spare. Only Ali Waterhouse (2-41) caused the opposition any problems as they finished on 194-4.

This week the first team are away at Tredegar with the seconds also playing Tredegar at home. Team news will be posted on the clubs website www.pencoedcc.co.uk.

Double award for town centre conservation

WORK on an historic part of Bridgend town centre has won plaudits for Bridgend County Borough Council.

Bridgend Civic Trust and Civic Trust for Wales have given the authority special awards in recognition of conservation and restoration work in Dunraven Place, as part of the Bridgend Townscape Heritage Initiative.

Dr Matthew Griffiths, Director of The Civic Trust for Wales and Bridgend Civic Trust Chairman Howard Lewis, presented their awards at a meeting of the council.

He said: "This award marks a very special achievement, in which conservation of some fine buildings and streets

has paid off in terms of amenity, civic pride, business development and jobs."

Mr Lewis added: "Bridgend Civic Trust is particularly pleased to present this award to BCBC for work done in Dunraven Place during recent years."

On behalf of the council, Bridgend county borough, Mayor Jefferson Tildesley, said: "It's a pleasure to accept these awards which acknowledge all the hard work which has gone into regenerating this part of the town centre. We can all see for ourselves the improvements in Dunraven Place, but receiving these awards from bodies such as these is a wonderful endorsement."

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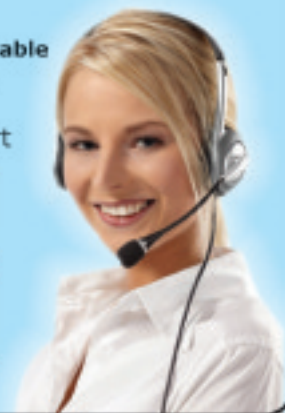
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Fascinating snapshots recall a Cowbridge landmark of the past

RIGHT: Old Verlands House. **BELOW, centre:** The Catholic church and site office. Main entrance gate to Verlands House is on the right. Main entrance to new development of Verlands estate lay between the two.

LOCAL photographer Robert Fisher, son of the late well-known Cowbridge businessman, Louis Fisher, has unearthed some fascinating artifacts while "trawling through" his father's extensive files.

"Amongst them were over 2,000 35mm transparency slides, which he photographed from the early 1960s onwards," Robert explained.

"I have been slowly scanning these photographs onto digital media and have come across pictures of the old Verlands House, before it was demolished when my father built the Verlands Estate in the late 1960s. Perhaps your readers would be interested in seeing these pictures.

"They show the entrance to the Verlands estate and St Cadoc's Catholic Church.

"The main driveway to the Verlands House was situated between the present entrance to the Verlands estate and the Southway Retirement home.

"It is my intention to archive these pictures and I am always interested in old photographs, especially of the local area, so if your readers have any old photographs, I would be delighted and grateful if they would lend them to me, so I can scan them before happily returning them," he added.

Robert can be contacted through The GEM.

RIGHT: Main entrance to new development showing Verlands House, Catholic church to the left, main entrance to Verlands estate to the right



photo A



Picture by Robert Fisher



ABOVE: Main entrance to the Verlands development, showing Catholic church. It appears to show that the church has been extended since Photo A (above, left) was taken at the time of the development.

FAMILIAR BUILDING FOR SALE



ABOVE: Cowbridge Health Centre building is now up for sale.

ONE of the town's most familiar buildings located in the historic old hall gardens has been put up for sale.

Cowbridge Health Centre is being put on the market by estate agents Watts & Morgan because it is due to close its doors once a purpose built primary care centre is completed near the leisure centre in 2011.

Dyfed Miles of Watts & Morgan said the company was confident that the property would attract early interest.

"Opportunities like this rarely come up in Cowbridge. The property is situated in a really attractive location in an historic part of the town within the old town walls and immediately behind Old Hall.

"The property offers obvious development or conversion potential but is also likely to be of interest to owner occupiers for a surgery, crèche or office."

Paul Stauber, director of planning at Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board, pointed out: "The new primary care centre will accommodate the two existing GP practices and will provide a range of additional health and community services, all from a state of the art building."

FREE-SCORING SCHOOL TEAM IS DENIED BY STUBBORN RESISTANCE OF SOUTH WALES XL



School first XI v XL Club.



XL Club.

THE annual First XI cricket match between Cowbridge Comprehensive school and the South Wales XL Club took place at Cowbridge Cricket Club on Wednesday, May 5.

Put in to bat, the school got off to a brisk start with captain Michael Lloyd (55) and Adam Wood (39) smashing the ball to all corners.

The introduction of slow spin by Chris Hudson and the gentle medium pace of Hugh Williams slowed the scoring rate, as did the fall of some wickets. Hudson got 2 for 48 and Williams 2 for 32.

Nick Davies (39) and Sam Wood (40) enabled the school to declare at 212 for 7 at tea.

Highlight of the XL team was the performance wicketkeeper Gareth Owen, who claimed five stumpings, a catch and a run-out.

During the tea interval, speeches were given by PE teacher Glan Williams and captain Mike Lloyd. The highlight of the interval was the presentation by XL captain Peter Docherty to Michael of a shield to celebrate The Wales District School of the Year Award for 2009.

Captain Docherty was the mainstay of the XL innings, top scoring with 43 runs and other contributions came from Wyn Lloyd (29), Mike Staddon (20), Chris Hudson (29 no).

Despite using eight bowlers, the school could not



Peter Docherty, captain of Wales over-50s, presents the XL trophy to captain Michael Lloyd and the school for their continued fixture with the XL Club and high level of performances achieved by the school over many years. It is the first time the school has been awarded this accolade.

get the last wicket, despite the efforts of left arm spin Nick Davies, who took 5 for 52 in his 15 overs. The match ended in a draw with the XL hanging in at 179 for 9.

The school would like to thank Cowbridge Cricket Club for providing their facilities and also the XL club for honouring this prestigious fixture. Long may it continue.

HW

Staff team beat Whitchurch

COWBRIDGE staff cricket team got their season off to a flying start with a win over a strong Whitchurch staff side.

Missing key players, including Jon Ling, Owen Lewis, Glan and Hugh Williams, Cowbridge bled some new young staff among some more experienced staff.

Having lost the toss

and being put into the field, captain Chris Cox opened the bowling with Charlie Pleasants, and they restricted Whitchurch in the early overs, taking 2 for 13 and 1 for 4 respectively.

Whitchurch dug in after the tight opening spell, with opening batsman C Workman carrying his bat for 40 not out and A Hurley hitting a fine 47 before being bowled by a straight one from Dai Griffiths.

Some superb fielding by newcomers Sion Roberts and Rob Evans meant that Whitchurch were restricted to 111 in their 20 overs.

Openers Steve McQuade (48) and Tim Cox (25) started the chase in quick fashion, producing some fine shots, followed by the sublime Dai Griffiths who, with the champagne moment of the match, reverse paddled one of Whitchurch's quicker

bowlers for four.

After a middle order wobble, it was left to Alan Fowles to score the winning runs with consecutive fours to give Cowbridge staff a four-wicket victory with three overs to spare. With such a good victory, those missing will have a challenge to get back into the team.

Happy selection dilemmas for director of cricket Gareth Evans!

CJC

Feasibility study is the next step for museum coalition

A REGIONAL Assembly Member has called for a Vale Heritage Museum to be fully supported, after the matter was discussed in the Welsh Assembly.

The Heritage Minister Alun Ffred Jones told members that talks are taking place between the Welsh government and the Vale Council regarding a feasibility study into a new museum in Barry, and Chris Franks AM said he welcomed progress on the project.

Mr Franks, a former Vale councillor, explained: "There is a great deal of support in the town for the creation of a museum to celebrate the Vale's history."

"Plaid believes the creation of a museum for the whole of the Vale would be a boost to the town. The idea has also been backed by people from across the Vale,

including members of the Dinas Powys Local History Society. Dr Jonathan Hicks and other local Vale residents campaigning for the museum have to be congratulated for their hard work."

Dr Hicks, who is chairman of the Vale Heritage Centre Coalition, the group lobbying for a museum sited on the Barry Waterfront, said: "I am delighted that our campaign has now reached national level and is being discussed in the Assembly. This is another important step forward for this project and underlines the strength of support for this potentially wonderful facility."

"It is important to stress, however, that this is a Vale Heritage Centre, not a Barry museum. It will reflect the history of the whole Vale and will be a source of entertainment and education for Vale inhabitants and visitors."

Various venues are being considered for the centre – whether a purpose-built facility as part of the Barry Waterfront development, or a refurbishment of the Pump House. The feasibility study being carried out by the Vale Council will identify the most cost-effective solution.

Dr Hicks added: "We very much look forward to the results of the feasibility study, which will identify the next steps in our quest to turn the vision into reality. It would certainly be an important addition to the Vale landscape."

TIM CHAPMAN

CONGREGATION GATHERS TO CELEBRATE DAY OF PENTECOST



No meeting, so an outing instead!

NEWS FROM BARRY WI

THE usual meetings took place this month, but due to the election, sewing circle meeting was cancelled and the ladies went to the College Inn for lunch.

During May, they organised a trip to the Shopping Outlet, Bridgend, then afternoon tea at Brynagarw House. The weather was not very good, but despite that, everybody enjoyed themselves.

The meeting on May 18 was 'resolutions' when the ladies debated the labelling of foods, followed by a fish and chip supper and a game of true or bluff.

Further information from the secretary on 01446 410139.

MORE than 100 people attended Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge, to mark Pentecost.

The church had been decorated with doves and balloons and a central display on the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

PHOTOGRAPHS by MIKE WILCOCK

ABOVE: The music group and a vocalist accompanied the hymns.

CHASING RAINBOWS

COWBRIDGE and District Flower Arrangers Club presents Chasing Rainbows, a demonstration by Pam Lewis in Cowbridge Town Hall on Wednesday, June 2, at 7.30pm.

Tickets £5, available at the door. Raffle and sales table in aid of Ty Hafan. Everyone welcome.

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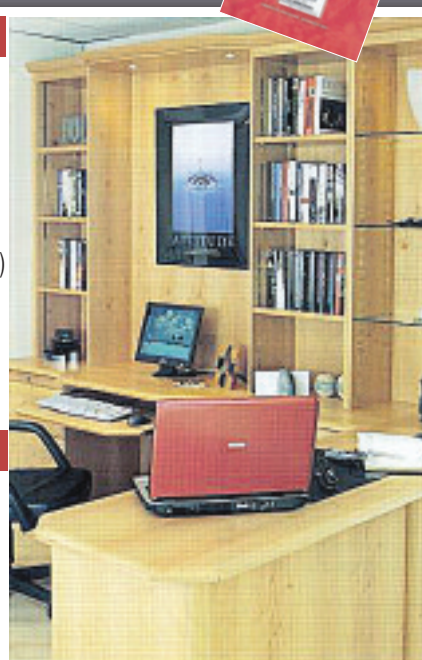


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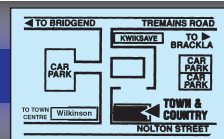


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Youth theatre juniors finally get a date for their show after last-minute postponement!



THE young actors who make up the Bridgend Junior Youth Theatre had a major disappointment some weeks ago when their show was postponed after a fire at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

As the photographs on this page show, the young cast were in the final stages of rehearsal for *Mulan* – based on the Disney cartoon musical – when the problem arose.

Now, however, The GEM can

reveal that a date has been set for the cast to get back together and perform the show in the pavilion.

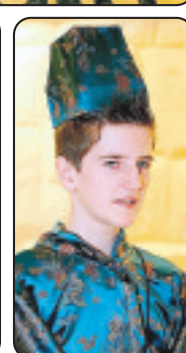
The show's director, Xenia Yardley, said that the new dates for the show were September 1-3, and the young actors were looking forward to finally getting on stage.

She added: "It is a really colourful and exciting show, and we had some really special effects all lined up, so we are delighted to get a date to aim at!"

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MALCOLM NUGENT

BELOW:

The audience can look forward to Chinese dragons, music, dance, swordfights and some extra surprises!





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Little Kickers – a great way to learn the beautiful game

LITTLE KICKERS are one of the UK's most popular pre-school football classes run by approved football coaches.

Former professional footballer Damon Searle and wife Andrea launched Little Kickers in Barry in April 2008, and currently run 11 classes a week in the south Wales area.

Little Kickers is a nationwide franchise, set up approximately six years ago to meet a demand for organised football aimed at the toddler community.

It caters for boys and girls aged from two years up to seven-year-olds.

At Little Kickers, the focus is very much on fun, while learning valu-

able social skills such as listening, sharing, taking turns and teamwork.

Kickers also incorporates simple concepts such as colours, numbers, basic balance, agility and co-ordination.

Mega Kickers is aimed at more advanced skills to facilitate greater growth in football.

Damon said: "We are pleased to announce that

Mega Kickers for children aged from five years old up to their seventh birthday is opening classes in Llantwit Major and Cardiff at the beginning of June."

You can find more details of venues and prices at www.littlekickers.co.uk or call the hotline number 01446 746153.

Goal! Little Kickers

5 years up to 7th Birthday Football Training

FREE Taster/Enrolment Session
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Margam Park caters for the family

MARGAM Country Park is the only place to be this half-term, with a fun-filled action-packed week where the fun never stops.

The family activities are free and include: learning the art of drumming with our samba drumming workshops; uncovering the spooky goings on in our castle ghost walks; storytime with Cat Weatherill who will transport you through time and space to distant lands; high flying at the Margam Kite Festival; and fun on the farm with our sheep shearing day.

The full range of events is:

- May 31 – Margam Family Fun Day and the Family Week Picnic Day.

- June 1 – Sheep shearing day on the Farm 1pm–3pm.

- June 2 – Cat's Tales in the Castle.

- June 3 – Samba drumming sessions in the castle.

- June 4 – Ghost walks with Ghostwatch Wales.

- June 4 and 5 – Margam Kite Festival.

The cycle shop with expert advice and great service

H R CYCLES, established in 1991 by Hadyn Rees, is still racing along with Hadyn at the top of his form.

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Whodunnit at Barry school

B A R R Y Comprehensive School recently staged one of the most popular events in the school calendar – the Murder Mystery Evening.

The audience were offered a night of nail-biting improvisation from student performers from year-7 through to year-13. Some of the year-13s have been in the 'Mystery Crew' from the very first evening in 2005.

Daniel Morgan, Ben Sully, Ellis Watts and Blake Knight performed as suspects for the last time, as they will be leaving for universities across the country to continue their studies.

However, all is not

doom and gloom, for out of the ashes new stars were born, including Jack James, who turned out to be the dastardly killer, Tom Evans who moved from the role of policeman to suspect, and Alex Parker, who took the role of Chief Inspector and host of the evening.

The performance was well received and everyone enjoyed the fun-filled atmosphere, with guests commenting on the students' performances and on the excellent standard of the food prepared and served by year-10 hospitality and catering students.

Mrs Ellis said she could not be more proud of the students, and has already started plotting next year's night of murder and mystery.

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Accommodation required for foreign students

EACH year, Barry Comprehensive School welcomes a growing number of international students to the Barry Sixth Form.

Over the years, students have travelled from all over Europe, Asia and South America to study with us for one year.

Our visiting students benefit from the experi-

ence of a year in Wales, while local students benefit from interacting with their peers from around the globe.

The availability of suitable accommodation restricts the number of students we can welcome to Barry. We would be interested to hear from local residents who can help with next year's intake beginning in September 2010.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

For international students attending the Barry Sixth Form at Barry Comprehensive School from September 2010 to June 2011
Contact 01446 411411 for further details



Don't delay, get on board Stagecoach today!

SUMMER will be here soon – yippee! So plan ahead and give your child something fantastic to look forward to.

Stagecoach Theatre Schools are now enrolling for summer holiday workshops! Bridgend: August 9-13; Cowbridge: August 16-20.

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Each workshop is

complete in itself and they run for a week with a presentation for family and friends at the end.

The workshops include lots of singing, dancing, acting and there's plenty to learn every day for the final performance.

Open to ages three to 18 years, whether they are a Stagecoach student or not. Give them a week of the summer they will talk about all year!

Places are limited, so don't delay. Get on board today! Stagecoach Bridgend & The Vale: 01446 781454; apply on-line: www.stagecoach.co.uk

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SUMMER HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS NOW BOOKING

Children's Choices

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

FAIRIES AND PIXIES SPOTTED IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN!



01656 652272 07989 970681
www.gemmagriffithsphotography.co.uk

LOCAL photographer Gemma Griffiths, has recently spotted a new phenomenon in the Vale area.

While taking photos of local flowers and fauna, she noticed some very cute little fairies and pixies living among them.

The fairies were pleased to have their photos taken and said they would be happy to share their toadstools

and fairy magic with local children if they ever wanted to come and visit.

Gemma Griffiths has been a local photographer in the Vale for more than five years. She started taking photographs of babies and children and has recently included weddings in her portfolio.

Fairy photography is a new element to her work. She has plenty of spare fairy dust for local

children if they would like to visit the secret toadstool or to float above the Vale on a white fluffy cloud.

The fairies are not available for interview, but please contact Gemma if you have any questions.

To see some of these amazing images, please visit Gemma's website – www.gemmagriffithsphotography.co.uk. A CD of images is available on request.

SEE PAGES 18 & 19 FOR MORE EXCITING THINGS TO DO

Hop, skip and jump at Vale leisure centres

YOUNGSTERS in the Vale of Glamorgan can hop, skip and jump their way through half-term by getting on their marks for an indoor athletics championship at Cowbridge Leisure Centre.

As part of a week-long programme of activities on offer across all of the Vale's leisure centres, budding athletes aged five and above can have a go at a range of running, throwing and jumping events on Wednesday, June 2 from

10am-12pm.

Spring-heeled children in Cowbridge can also enjoy parkour sessions on Friday 4 June, where they can learn how to run up walls, vault over equipment and generally leap around the leisure centre!

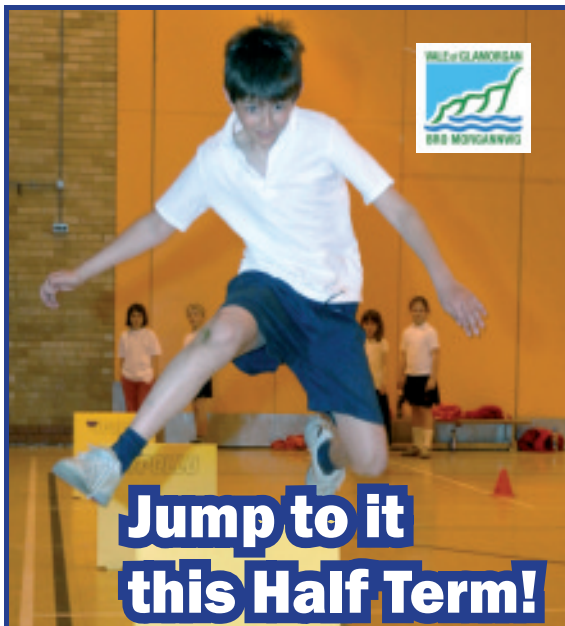
Elsewhere, a number of sports are on offer for as little as £1, while if you are not sure which to choose, then why not go for multiple activities at one of the 5x60 activity days being held at Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Leisure Centres.

For only £5, 11 to 16

year-olds can easily get their five a day by having a go at badminton, dodgeball, table tennis, archery, cricket and more.

Children can also swim for free in Barry, Penarth and Llantwit Major during half-term, or take their pick from a number of free pool-based activities including snorkelling, water polo and a rookie life-guards course.

For full details, pick up a programme from your local leisure centre or go online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/leisurecentres.



Jump to it this Half Term!

At the Vale of Glamorgan's Leisure Centres

Athletics, Free Running, Fencing, Table Tennis and Frisbee Golf are among the activities on offer for youngsters this Half Term at the Leisure Centres in Barry, Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Penarth. Get involved! Call into your nearest Leisure Centre to find out more or go online at...

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/leisurecentres

It's a happy third birthday to Shoe22!

SHOE22 of Porthcawl are celebrating their third birthday – and three successful years of fitting children's feet.

The shop continues to attract more and more families from all over the UK.

Shoe22 owner Elizabeth Fry explained:

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Children's Choices

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



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It is not just younger children who are catered for. The owner, Jean Tait, who has two teenage sons at the local school, says that knitters are producing hats, bags and gloves for their older children in some of the super colour blends now available from suppliers Noro, Debbie Bliss, Sirdar, Sublime, Artesano and Bergere de France.

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Currently, we have an abundance of cats who are desperately in need of a new family or indi-

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653456 if you can offer a home.

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Smolanny's, the one-stop-shop for your children in High Street

If ever there was a one-stop-shop for designer nursery products and children's wear, then it has to be Smolanny's in Barry's High Street.

Owners Cathy and Andrew Lane have carefully selected the very latest baby gifts, nursery

products, toys and clothing which brings customers from near and far.

With nursery products from household names such as I-Candy, Bugaboo, Phil & Ted, Quinny, Musty, Maclaren, Maxi Cosi and Petite Star Zia to name but a few, to a wide range of books and puzzles, you'll be spoilt for choice.

We also stock the ever-popular Micro and maxi Scooters, Easy Roller Go Cart, and many more toys to enjoy outdoors in the lovely summer weather.

If your child is aged one to 10, he or she can look a million dollars in the designer brand clothing and footwear available such as Emile et Rose, Bonnie Baby, Little Darlings, Lego,

IKKS, French Connection Baby & Kids and the popular Lelli Kelly and Converse shoes. Lelli Kelly shoes for summer 2010 brings school shoes, canvas strawberries and floral sequin designs, and the ever popular sandals, with the free gift this season being the make-up mobile compact! Lelli Kelly are the "cutest shoes, oh yeah!"

Converse boots and shoes by Chuck Taylor are a new brand for Smolanny's this season, from the baby cribs which are priced at £19.99, right through to older kids, which are priced at £23.99, they are already proving popular, for boys and girls alike.

A visit to Smolanny's is a must! You will enjoy great customer service and friendly advice given by Cathy, Andrew and their staff. Time is always taken to ensure each customer is given all the help that they need. It's no wonder this boutique has such a good reputation!

With the website www.smolannybaby.co.uk now fully operational, the next move will be to enable our customers to buy our products online. Watch this space!

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All parties between June 1st - September 1st when booked before June 25th 2010. Only with this voucher

Weekdays activities:

Monday, Tuesday and Friday 10 - 10.30am - Island breakfast - coffee and croissant for mum (hot drinks limited to 1 drink per adult accompanying each paying child).

Monday mums: social interaction for new mums and their babies 1 - 3pm at Adventure Island - entrance free for mum and baby.

Tuesday: 1 - 3 - Child minder's adventure - free squash for the children and hot drink for the carer - proof of child minders status required. (limited to 1 coffee)

Thursday: musical minis 10.30am

Friday: 12 - 1 - Thank goodness it's Friday lunch club. Food menu discounted by 20% for one hour. Excludes sweets, crisps and drinks.

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new range of ready made meals. Please sample when you next call into the shop.

Prepared from their own produce, the range includes: Soups, quiche, beef bourguignon, chicken in wine - fresh or frozen.

Children will love a visit to the Pool Farm shop, as the paddock alongside is home to ponies, goats and chickens. A little closer to nature than a trip to the supermarket!

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O'SHEAS No 1 café and takeaway is the oldest trading fish and chip shop on Barry Island and was established in 1946 by the current owner's grandfather.

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It is situated a few

yards from the beach with modern dining furniture inside and out, offering uninterrupted sea views.

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We offer a traditional fish and chip shop menu with coffee, ice cream and cold drinks.

Come and see us this summer for great children's meal deals.

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Children's Choices

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



Looking forward to Pendoylan's summer term

PENDOYLAN Primary School is looking forward to the many events that have been planned for the summer term.

The PTA has organised a disco for the pupils on Thursday, May 27.

Sports Day will be held on Tuesday, June 15, at 1.15pm.

The summer fair will be held at school on Saturday, July 3.

Speech and prizegiving day will take place at Cowbridge Leisure Centre on Friday, July 9. This will be followed by a casino night on Saturday, July 10, at 7.30pm in All Hallows Church Hall, Miskin.

On Saturday, November 20, Pendoylan School will be hosting a ball at the Vale Hotel to celebrate the launch of the new school building project.

Pupils explain why St John's school makes a difference

THERE is no better advertisement for

St John's than its pupils.

Adi, aged eight years



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said: "My favourite subject is maths, because it's really good and it stretches your mind. I think the teachers are brilliant and I am happy in school."

Sophie, aged nine, enthused: "What I like about St John's is that we work as a team. We are kind and friendly to each other and it's as if we are a big family."

Remy, who is 12, said: "I do not have just one favourite subject because they are all very good and learning here is not a chore - it's fun! I really appreciate every-

thing all my teachers have done for me, as I would not be the person I am today without them; I owe a lot to my teachers."

Rosie, aged 14, explained: "I was 13 when I started at St John's. I like the small classes and the friendly environment. Everyone is given the attention they need to thrive, regardless of ability. The pupils are friendly and supportive and don't mock you if you are doing well."

Visit St John's and discover the difference.

IMPS' FESTIVAL IS A BIG SUCCESS!



Action shot by DE Photo.

CADOXTON Imps organised a mini and junior five-a-side football festival earlier this month.

Approximately 450 children in more than 40 teams in age groups from under-8 to under-12, and a disabilities section, took part in the grounds of Barry Comprehensive School.

The Imps' annual football festival has become an established fixture in the Barry footballing calendar and this was the 13th consecutive year that the event had been sponsored by McDonald's Restaurant (Barry), ensuring that every child taking part received both a certificate and a medal.

McDonald's also provided winners' trophies for the junior teams and fair play awards for the mini teams.

Martin Pursall, chairman of Cadoxton Imps AFC, said: "There is a tremendous amount of hard work by a lot of people to organise and run an event like this, but

it is worth it to see so many children, parents and grandparents enjoying a day of football and fun.

"I would like to thank all the Imps managers and committee, and everyone else who has contributed, including Mark Collier of Bowcom for supplying paint and loaning us equipment to line the pitches, Barry Comprehensive School for allowing us to use the school grounds and canteen, St John Ambulance (Cowbridge), DE Photo and, in particular, Huw Thomas and McDonald's Restaurant (Barry) for McDonald's continued support."

Huw Thomas, franchisee of McDonald's (Barry), said: "With so many local children taking part from various football clubs in the Vale, we are proud to be involved with the Imps' mini and junior five-a-side football festival, and to be able to support children's football in the community."

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St Richard Gwyn golfing pupils are given opportunity to be the next Rory McIlroy



WITH excitement building ahead of the Ryder Cup coming to Wales later this year, youngsters from two Vale secondary schools are getting to grips with golf thanks to the innovative 5x60 scheme.

Boys and girls from St Richard Gwyn Catholic School and

LEFT: St Andrew's Major Golf Club pro John Hastings giving pupils tips and guidance on their technique

Barry Comprehensive School are able to enjoy weekly sessions at St Andrew's Major Golf Club throughout the summer term as part of the scheme, which creates extra-curricular sporting opportunities for youngsters in Wales to get active for at least 60 minutes, five days a week (5x60).

Ben Williams, who is the 5x60 officer for both schools, said: "The

club's golf professional, John Hastings, is coaching the pupils, giving them tips and guidance on their technique, and they are really enjoying the chance to learn while having a go, rather than just being shown what to do."

You can find out more about golf clubs in the Vale and the 5x60 scheme online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/sportsandplay.

Pupils turn on athletics style

IN the year-8 and year-9 qualifying round at Jenner Park for the middle school championships, Cowbridge pupils had a number of excellent performances.

George Griffiths (year-8) came second in a fast heat with a time of 11.8 seconds, setting a new year-8 Cowbridge school record, which had stood for 22 years.

George had a similar result in the long jump, showing the other competitors why he's a British champion at indoor long jump, this time winning his event with a jump of 5.46m, once again breaking a long-standing Cowbridge record.

Harry Thomas surprised himself with a victory in the 200m, and also qualified for the long jump finals.

Joe Gaughan qualified for the shot and 400m finals.

Josh Thomas, not to be out done by his brother, qualified for the 800m, together with Jason Sami.

George Francis qualified for the high jump finals with his unorthodox technique.

Athletics debutant Jared Charlton Webb qualified in third place for the shot and Harry Stubbington came second in the javelin, once again qualifying for the finals day at Leckwith stadium.

Dancing stars on the way to Deutschland

ON May 2, 48 dancers from YDance performed at the Welsh Millennium Centre to compete in the IDO Welsh Street Dance Championships 'Dance Where the Fire Licks 2010'.

The day included a display of high quality hip hop, street and break dance styles performed by young people from throughout Wales.

All these dancers were longing to be the best and to place 1st, 2nd or 3rd to qualify to represent Wales at the World Hip Hop Championships in Bochum, Germany at the end of September.

YDance was destined to be part of this five-day urban dance extravaganza as all three dance teams managed to get onto the Welsh Production Dance Team which will perform at

the Championships in September.

The first dancer to be announced onto the Welsh Squad was B Boy Harry from Barry. Harry Wood an 11-year-old boy who trains with the Barry Boy Breakers, battled it out against his team mates and other B Boys from across Wales to achieve the Junior B Boy 1 on 1 title.

The 4 FT 2 Crew competed in the Children's Formation Team Section winning 2nd place with a performance of a high calibre.

Katie Gibbs (10yrs), Bethan Tyler (10yrs), Zoe Cannon (10yrs), Bethan Deakin (9yrs), Kia Harcourt (9yrs), Ellie Mai Platt (9yrs), Olivia Ahmed (9yrs), Hannah Svendsen (8yrs) and Robson Mallam (7yrs) entertained the large audience with their pyjama party frolics! Tesni Sewell found out that she had danced her way

into 5th place in the children's girl solo which placed her onto the Welsh Street Dance Team.

YDancers Levi Sims, Myles German, Luke Perry, Yasmin Harcourt and Shireen Ahmed successfully earned their places on the squad with their solos against a huge division of dancers by triumphantly gaining 1st in the Adult Boy Solo, 2nd and 3rd in the Junior Male Solo, and 2nd and 3rd in the Adult Girl Solo.

Complexity, the adult team for YDance took their place on the Welsh squad too by being placed 3rd in the Adult Formation Team with a prize winning performance. Dancers, Abbi Bartlett (17) Sophie Morgan (17) Becky Nott (17) Levi Sims (16) Lauren Barrett (16) Sam Owens (16) Yasmin Harcourt (16) Bethan Goddard (16) Shireen Ahmed (16) and Ellie Carter (16) finished off the competition with a fantastic performance and despite a few injuries they were victorious.

Bethan Hartland (18) who left YDance last year to attend Swansea University was also at the competition with her team SUDS, a small

group of students which has a passion for street dance. They also achieved success by winning 1st place in the Adult Small Group and a place on the Welsh team.

The crew that stole the competition was Unknown, the Junior YDance small group. They took the stage and mesmerised the auditorium from the beginning.

The young group of dancers, Amber Summers (15) Chanelle Johnson (14), Rhia Dutton (14) Rhian Dwyer (14), Brooke Clarke (14), Nioami Everitt (13) and Myles German (13) smashed

their routine, impressing the judges to achieve the highest scores of the day and win the Junior Small Group Trophy and a place on the Welsh Street Dance Squad.

Emma Mallam, dance co-ordinator of Motion Control, said: "I congratulate all the dancers - you are all stars, who shone your brightest on the day of the competition."

"I want to say a huge thank you to the tutors Lynne Hughes, Lee Crowley and Alex Brown for their wonderful choreography, hard work and continuous support to the dance programme."



Thanks also to Carlos Neto and Xavi Monreal for working with the YDance in the holidays."

YDance wants to thank all the parents, friends and family who attended the competition and appreciates all their support for the YDancers.

YDance will continue to 'Bring it On' alongside the other winners of the day when they represent Wales in the World Championships in Germany. A big initiative 'Dancing 2 Deutschland' is now

being set up to help towards funding this dance experience for the YDance winners and allow them the chance to dance at such a prestigious level.

Dancers have raised just under £500 for Clic Sargent - the charity for children with cancer and now are looking to raise the funds for this trip of a lifetime by holding events throughout the summer months.

The dancers are looking to the local community to support their dance initiative through sponsorships. Funding these dancers for this 5

day dance event will not be easy but spirits are high and the dancers are determined to win again! Well done YDance!"

YDance is part of the Motion Control dance programme - which aims to provide dance opportunities to the young people living in the Vale and is run by the Vibe Experience, Barry. Anyone wishing to help or donate in the 'Dancing 2 Deutschland' campaign can contact the dance co-ordinator Emma Mallam on 01446 733622.

Gardens open for charity

LLANTWIT Major and Llanmaes gardens are open for charity again this year on Sunday, June 6 from 11am-5pm under the National Garden Scheme - combined admission £5.

This year, there are seven open gardens, including two new additions.

Look out for the yellow signs to direct you to the gardens from the B4265.

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Enjoy your Home ♥ Love Living

CREATE A 'BESIDE THE SEA INTERIOR' IN YOUR HOME THIS SUMMER

by
GABRIELLE FAGAN

AHOY there, fans of interiors trends – the coastal style is sailing over the horizon and promises to breathe freshness and life into your rooms.

Bright blues and crisp whites make for a ship-shape look with a unique breezy charm that suits any setting even if it's miles from the sea.

"Nautical style does seem to be timeless and endlessly appealing," says Claudia Lewellen, director at Runaway Coast, a company whose products can conjure the 'down by the sea' style.

"This look is instantly recognisable and loved by everyone, and isn't restricted to being used just in homes by the coast. As an island race, we certainly do have a special bond with the sea that surrounds us and just being close to it never ceases to be a draw. Using coastal inspiration to decorate is also a great way to update rooms for summer."

She believes the look has a magical ability to evoke the emotion of holidays, and it is that which guarantees its perennial popularity.

"Just a glimpse of deckchair stripes and a coastal accessory can transport us to times when we escaped and relaxed in a comfortable environment," she points out.

She advises following an informal 'kick off your shoes and relax' look for spaces.

"You should aim for a simple and understated yet smart scheme, and use a mix of vibrant and gentle colours inspired by nature," she says.

So if you see no ships - or any seaside style - in your rooms, your home will be sadly lacking. Come on board and follow our guide to beach chic!

CABIN FEVER

Beach huts or coastal homes are unfussy, unpre-

tentious havens and you don't have to push the boat out financially to create a holiday atmosphere.

Revamp floorboards and tongue and groove cladding with a coat of white paint, cover sofas in easily-washable cotton fabrics, and add colourful cotton rugs and cushions.

"The nautical theme is going to be a big trend for the home this summer," says Candida Balfour at MyDeco, the online site which has links to inspiring interiors shops and designers.

"This year, the interpretation is part American-Hamptons glamour, part old-British seaside revelry. Those pale blues and crisp whites create an instant feeling of carefree nostalgia."

Her suggestions are: Paint old dining chairs or stools a crisp white or pale blue. Sand the edges and corners for a more weathered nautical vibe; fill hurricane lamps with layers of sand and shells with tealights perched on top. Sew strips of blue ribbon around plain white cushions and add chunky wooden buttons to finish.

The fact that we're having a love-affair with blue this year – it's emerged as the coolest shade around for interiors – means it's not difficult to find everything from deckchair stripe fabrics to sea blues and surf white paint to splash out on.

SEASIDE SANCTUARY

Make a bedroom look and feel as though it's a stone's throw from the sea, and when you step into it, your cares could float away!

Walls painted in soft blue shades are known to have a calming effect and it will be even more relaxing if you make sure the room is not overcluttered and has that pared-down beach hut look.

Dress a bed in crisp cotton bed linen, and cast a soft glow of light from a lamp whose base is evoca-

tively made from driftwood, starfish and pebble.

Nautical style is a fresh-as-paint look which makes it ideal for a child's bedroom.

Laura Ashley's new 'On The Sea' collection of blue stripy bedlinen, curtains and accessories featuring appliqued yachts is delightful. Curtains from £70, bedding set, £50.

Sailing boat bookends, £28 from The Little White Company could suit big or little sailors.

CATCH THE TIDE

An interestingly-shaped piece of driftwood, a bowl of pebbles, or even a tiny toy boat which brings back memories of a day out, can be just as effective, or more so, than buying a mass-produced accessory.

Luckily though, designers have let their imaginations set sail and produced nautical homeware that veers well away from tacky or cute so that the style-savvy don't feel sea-sick.

For instance, you could avoid that sinking feeling, even on dull days, by displaying a classic red and white lifebelt, £30, or use a chunky sailor's rope knot, £29 from Joanna Wood to stop doors slamming shut on breezy summer days.

A dull corner of a room could be transformed with a collection of holiday souvenirs and photographs, so that just glimpsing it, sweeps you away to happy times.



ABOVE:
Creative
UPVC



LEFT:
Inspirations

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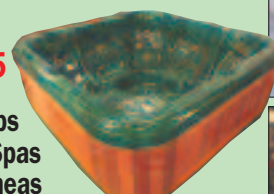
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Enjoy your Home ♥ Love Living

A golden rule: 'Preparation before decoration'

by JULIA GRAY

DECORATING a room usually requires preparation first – not least filling, sanding and washing down. Although it is time-consuming and hard work, it can't be skimped on if you want a good finish.

However long you think sanding and filling will take, expect it to take longer – especially if your ceilings, walls and woodwork are in poor condition.

You'll find an array of different fillers at your local DIY store – which can be confusing.

Basically, you'll need all-purpose filler for most types of wall repair, and wood filler for woodwork. For an easier route, go for a ready-mixed product, rather than one where you have to mix in the hardener yourself.

For cracks where movement is likely to occur again, such as on ceilings and around doors and windows, you'll need flexible filler. Also, for big repairs, it helps to have deep-repair filler or ready-mixed plaster repair. If hairline cracks are a problem, use hairline-crack filler, which you paint on.

FILLING KNIFE

Always use a good-quality filling knife to apply the filler. These come in various blade sizes and look similar to wallpaper-scraping knives.

The difference is that filling blades are much more flexible to help you get the filler into the hole or crack. For some repairs, nothing beats using your fingers, so you may want to invest in a

box of disposable plastic gloves to protect your hands.

To get a smooth repair, it can help to dip the filling knife in water, or mix a little water in with the filler to make it more pliable. However carefully you apply the filler, you're likely to lose a lot, so protect the floor and scoop the dropped filler up as you go.

Clean off your filling knife as soon as you finish because most fillers set quite quickly – although it's best not to sand the repair until the next day. Sometimes it helps to smooth over the repair again with a wet filling knife once the filler has hardened slightly.

Once you've sanded the filler, you'll need to clean off the sanding dust and inspect the repairs. You may need to fill and sand again to eliminate things such as lines and dips in the filler – depending on how perfect you want the finish to be. Alternatively, you could line the walls with lining paper now that you've filled most of the cracks and holes. The more uneven the walls, the thicker the lining paper should be.

MOODY

Those people looking for a different interior this year are moving away from bland old colours and choosing darker, more moody colours instead, according to DIY chain B&Q.

Paints in deeper tones are flying off the shelves, with cat black, choco chick lit, plummy accent and matinee grey the bestsellers in Laurence Llewelyn Bowen's new Laurence Makes It Home paint range.

Similarly, the most popular choices from

B&Q's Colours paint range are soft black, cocoa bean, forest fruits and grey slate. This follows on from last year, when sales of Crown's little black dress colour rose by 59 per cent. So far this year, sales have risen by 10 per cent.

"We're seeing unexpected colour combinations surfacing everywhere in home decor," said B&Q's Dee Gittens. "It's a move towards bolder, more original choices."

"Matt black and grey, contrasted with flashes of gold, bronze and azure blue, create a look that's glamorous, excessive and dramatic."

ASK THE EXPERT

Q: I'm painting my hall, but can't reach the high ceiling above the stairs – what are my options?

A: You can buy or hire stair ladders and platforms, which enable you to work safely on stairs – if you're buying one, go for a combination ladder because it will be useful for all kinds of tasks.

You can also get long poles that slot into the end of your paint roller, and long poles with rollers already attached, which you could use on the ladder.

If the ceiling is really high, the easiest thing is to paint the ceiling and walls the same colour because you won't be able to reach to do neat edges. For anywhere the roller won't reach, you can use a paintbrush tied to the end of the pole with tape – although getting enough pressure on the brush can be tricky.



ABOVE: Crefft Kitchens



LEFT: Ashdown

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You are invited to Barry College's 50th Birthday Party!

**Monday 28th June 2010
10.00am – 1.00pm
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We hope you can come along!

Do you have a special memory or story about Barry College?
Do you have any photographs of Barry College taken over the years?

Whether a past student, member of staff, friend of the College or local resident – we all share in the College's heritage.

All those who contribute photographs or written memories will receive a thank you letter and commemorative gift. The website www.barry.ac.uk/50 also includes details of planned activities and events through the academic year to allow all who wish to participate in celebrations the opportunity to do so.

Barry College will assume the consent of all those who appear in any photographs and written statements contributed relating to the College and its 50th celebrations, for use on the Barry College website, marketing materials and related media coverage. By contributing images/statements, you are agreeing to grant Barry College a royalty free licence to publish, edit and use such materials for the purposes stated above.

Out and About with The GEM

Well, if it isn't Cygnus Atratus!



ABOVE: There was a new visitor to the Knap lake recently, when this black swan (Cygnus Atratus) made a surprise appearance, where local resident PHILIP DAWSON took the picture.

Fields stage family giant picnic

A 'GIANT family picnic' will take place in Newbridge Fields, Bridgend, on Wednesday, June 2 from 2pm-4pm.

It is being organised by Bridgend County Borough Council's library and information service to celebrate National Family Week, which highlights spending quality time together through healthy and active lifestyles.

Fun activities include stories, puppets, face painting, and balloon modelling.

Admission is free. For further details, call Coed Parc reference library on (01656) 754810. Please note, that the picnic is dependent on weather conditions.

PRINCE OF PERSIA IS A BLAND, BUT ENJOYABLE BLOCKBUSTER EXPERIENCE

VIDEO games do not a great movie make: Ever since film producers believed that gamers would spend their hard-earned money on film versions of their favourite games, the success rate has remained firmly at zero.

Super Mario Brothers, *Mortal Kombat*, *Doom*, *Street Fighter*... the list of casualties has been seemingly endless. Despite this poor pedigree, however, uber-producer Jerry Bruckheimer obviously feels he is able to buck the trend, by producing an adaptation of the renowned Prince of Persia in *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time*.

Jake Gyllenhal stars as the titular Prince Dastan, a boy from the streets who was adopted by the king. When Dastan is framed for the murder of his adopted father, he is forced to go on the run with Princess Tamina (Gemma Arterton), and a mysterious dagger that can turn back time. With Dastan's brothers Tus (Richard Coyle) and Garsiv (Toby Kebbell), and their shady uncle Nizam (Ben

Kingsley) sending forces to find Dastan, he must try to clear his name while keeping the dagger away from dark forces who are intent on using it for evil...

An army invades a region looking for weapons of mass destruction, only to find none, while shady forces manipulate said invasion for their own ends – the story of the next Paul Greengrass film, or the work of a film maker intent on making a statement about the nature of war perhaps?

Try the subtext of a Jerry Bruckheimer film aimed squarely at the blockbuster audience and you'll be on the right track. But before you think the uber-producer has gone all highbrow for the popcorn crowd, have no fear – there are no clunky attempts at making a film high on moralising and low on thrills and spills.

Instead, *Prince of Persia* is a film that does exactly what you would expect of it – and while it doesn't quite match up to the highpoints of Bruckheimer's glories, it still makes for a nicely diverting two hours of cinema, if a touch too bland and restrained.

Of course, the big news is that it is a film based on a videogame that isn't completely

awful – and one that the game franchise's many legion of fans will find little to quibble about. While Mike Newell may be to some a staid director suited to the likes of *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, he showed with *Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire* that he is more than capable of bringing 'epic' to the big screen, and the director is successful yet again here.

Cleverly incorporating elements of the game's play into the sequences, Newell brings a nice verve and spark to the action sequences, giving them both a sense of daring but also adding a touch of reality (the rooftop chases are straight from the canon of Jason Bourne, intentional or not).

There is a clear aim from the director of creating a fantastical yet slightly plausible feel to the sequences, and while the computer effects briefly feel a touch too computerised, there is a wonderful sense of spectacle and excitement that is well placed.

One of the touchstones, conscious or otherwise, is the *Indiana Jones* franchise, the film trying (and by and large succeeding) in capturing the freewheeling sensibility that marked out that franchise, and the performances of both Jake Gyllenhal and Gemma Arterton both help to make that happen.

The former not only manages a proper English accent with style, but also anchors the film superbly well, bringing his 'serious actor' credibility and giving the film substance in the more dramatic moments, but also displaying a wonderful lightness of touch and spark with Arterton.

The British actress is becoming hot property this year, and while her turn in *Clash of the Titans* was nothing to write home about, here she shows that she has the talent to back up the praise she's been receiving.

Her chemistry with Gyllenhal is well constructed and works nicely on screen. The characters have little trust in each other but a mutual attraction they have to subdue – and Arterton is more than a match for her co-star, giving the Princess a feisty and resourceful attitude while making her more than equal to Dastan's leaping and fighting skills – she is anything but a damsel in distress, and Arterton delivers a turn that is hugely appealing.

As is par for the course with blockbuster films nowadays, the cast are made up of renowned actors who bring a degree of class and quality to proceedings, and *Prince of Persia* is no exception. Old hands Ben Kingsley and Alfred Molina offer up decent and comedic turns respectively, the former hinting at villainy while the latter is a character designed to get laughs and does so with aplomb (another little nod to the Indiana Jones franchise given Molina played a similar character in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*).

Meanwhile, relative newcomers Toby Kebbell and Richard Coyle offer up good support in smallish roles as Dastan's brothers, the latter particularly notable as the future king with the weight on his shoulders.

The screenplay, from Boaz Yakin, Doug Miro and Carlo Bernard, remains by and large faithful to the characters of the games with a few subtle changes here and there that shouldn't cause too much consternation; but while they get that right, it's the story (engineered by the game's creator Jordan Mechner) and dialogue that doesn't fare too well.

While the use of the dagger to turn back time isn't the most of original concepts, it could at least have been used far more effectively within the story than it is; as it is, it's merely a cute plot device that means the writers can try to pull the rug from under you before returning things to the status quo, some-

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

thing that hinders the climax of the film quite dramatically.

Similarly, the dialogue (let's face it, never a strong suit of the blockbuster genre) creaks and groans with exposition that couldn't be more blatant than if the actors turned to the screen and said 'Pay attention to this bit' – lines such as "... only the dagger can unlock the sands of time. And there are those who would use this power to destroy the world" and "... releasing the sand turns back time. Only the holder of the dagger is aware what's happened" are clunky by any standards.

While *Prince of Persia* is easily the best videogame adaptation yet, as a blockbuster on its own terms it doesn't quite hit the spot – the performances are strong, as is the direction, but its very much a case of offering little that is fresh.

While *Prince of Persia* satisfies the popcorn sensibility, its inability to mine anything new counts against it – but as a purely cinematic experience it makes for entertaining viewing.

VERDICT – A bit premature to say the videogame-to-film course has been lifted, but *Prince of Persia: Sands of Time* is easily the best example of it so far – and it works well as a blockbuster film to boot.

The well-trodden script aside, there is much to enjoy here despite its shortcomings, and is a film well worth watching. *Enjoyable*.

Guild meeting

THE Glamorgan Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers meets on Wednesday, June 9 for a talk 'My Own Work' by Riitta Sinkonen-Davies at Old School, Sully at 7.30pm. Riitta will talk about

IN BRIEF

her work as a weaver and show slides of her new work.

Members £2, visitors £3.50.

For further details, telephone Kirsten Gable on 01443 650336.

Art exhibition

TONDU and District Art Society holds its Summer Exhibition 2010 at the Len Evans Centre, Aberkenfig (near Bridgend) on June 12-15 at 10am-6pm daily.

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'Visit Wales' is message of ad campaign

A NEW campaign is encouraging people to experience 'proper holidays' in the Vale and other parts of Wales.

Minister for Heritage, Alun Ffred Jones, told the Assembly that he hoped the new campaign, which had its first TV ad aired on May 17, would strengthen Wales position as a tourism destination.

The 'proper holiday' campaign features real

people having real experiences in Wales. The campaign features two stars - Wales, of course, and the Darks family from Huddersfield, who were genuinely disappointed by their last holiday abroad.

The campaign follows the family holidaying in Wales and comprises two forty second TV advertisements and an interactive section on the Visit Wales web site leading to a ten minute film.



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Out and About with The GEM

Dyffryn to St Donats

IN June, St Donats Arts Centre will showcase an exhibition called 'A Year in Dyffryn - Work in Progress' showing work by the members of VOGA (Vale of Glamorgan Artists).

The 20 artists work in a wide range of media, including painting, print-making and ceramics, trying to capture the images and themes unfolding through the seasons at Dyffryn.

One member is Eileen Allan and trees have for many years been a major feature of her drawing and painting. She has shown her work in Scotland, Ireland, France and the USA, and says: "I have found the outstanding collection of trees at Dyffryn a great inspiration!"

The exhibition includes both finished work and preparatory studies, displayed so that visitors to the gallery can follow the artists' creative processes. The exhibition is open from June 3-25, Monday to Friday, 10am-4pm.

For more information visit: www.stdonats.com, www.voga.org.uk and <http://lvogadyffryn.blogspot.com>.



Artist Eileen Allan sketching at Dyffryn Gardens.

History comes to life at Cosmeston Medieval Village

COSMESTON Medieval Village near Penarth is the home of a reconstructed village of the 14th century and next bank holiday, Sunday and Monday, May 30-31, from 11am-5pm, history will again come alive!

Camping in and around the village will be soldiers and civilians from many different ages. Victorian soldiers of the Zulu war rub

shoulders with the Royal Welch Fusiliers from the fields of Waterloo, while warriors of ancient Greece can be seen with the demure and cultured ladies of the Regency period!

Of course, the Vikings and Pirates will compete with one another to see who can be the least civilised!

There will be living history camps to investigate, displays throughout the day and lots for the family to see and do.

Have a go at writing with a quill, drill with Queen Victoria's soldiers, try on some armour, sign up for His Majesty King George's Navy or even see what life was really like as an ancient Greek warrior!

A day out for the family offers an opportunity to see many different periods of history - all in one place!

For more information call 029 20 701678;

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 619.

● £2000: 899141.
● The rollover, which now stands at £2,500 was not won this week.

● £10: 287395; 884506; 641667; 158459; 676956; 684231; 875184; 753905; 341419; 488415; 668165; 323516; 707471; 188747; 393691; 455580; 830338; 872547; 328147; 674114.

● £5: 217403; 459700; 579600; 278161; 280221; 219109; 343519; 814009; 746864; 849511;

238720; 503807; 661496; 325877; 400157; 690361; 758927; 184461; 123333; 494039; 100591; 302015; 217217; 277923; 477498; 687184; 489864; 180260; 492333; 488829; 461982; 936689; 494142; 120942; 110247; 833120; 755304; 354624; 281291; 160794; 602958; 674309; 805740; 191727; 852254; 867865; 331800; 646724; 527160; 405520; 483082; 639544; 441090; 867203; 825649; 101930; 113447; 602885; 641673; 356192.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

Round Table fun day on Island!

BARRY Round Table and Barry Pleasure Park are organising a free fun day next month to support local children's charities at Barry Leisure Park.

The two organisations will be sponsoring a VIP day for hundreds of deserving children from local charities and associations.

A Round Table spokesman said: "In addition, we are able to offer the general public a chance to take advantage of the park facilities as well, for a price of 99p per person, to have unlimited rides for two hours between 12pm-2pm, 2pm-4pm, 4pm-6pm, 6pm-8pm on June

26. The 99p tickets are available for purchase prior to the day from Barry Island venues - 'The Dolphin' 11am-9pm, Wed-Sun; and Hyper Value 10am-5pm, Mon-Sun.

Tickets are for sale on the day, also directly from the Pleasure Park. We also have the support of local traders.

"However, if you are involved in a local children's charity, we have limited VIP places left and would love to hear from you. Remaining wrist bands are limited so it is on a first come first serve basis for appropriate charity organisations."

Contact by email: stuart.tay@ntlworld.com.

Miss Teen Galaxy wows the Ty Hafan children

YOUNGSTERS and their families at Ty Hafan were "delighted" to get a visit recently from Sara Morgan - Miss Teen Galaxy 2010.

Sara and her family spent a couple of hours being shown around the hospice and meeting some of the children and staff. One little girl was especially taken with Sara's amazing tiara.

A spokeswoman reported: "Like everyone who visits this very special place, Sara immediately became aware of



ABOVE: Sara met some of the children staying at Ty Hafan and later made her mark on the famous hand print wall.

the peace and tranquillity Ty Hafan can be there to which parents can experience during a short break from caring for their life-limited child 24/7.

"There is also a vibrant and positive atmosphere in which older children can spend time making friends and experiencing a degree of independence at Ty Hafan without their parents."

Sara commented: "It's wonderful to know that

"I felt inspired to do what I can to help the children and their families after meeting some of them and witnessing their strength, courage and happiness."

Ty Hafan will be opening its doors to the public at its annual fun day on Sunday, June 27.

Arts and crafts

THERE will be a children's arts and crafts afternoon in the Berwyn Centre, Nantymoel, on Tuesday, June 1, from 2pm-4pm.

Youngsters up to 11, will be making personalised t-shirts.

Organised by Bridgend County Borough Council's arts and community development department, admission per child is £2.50 (£4 with lunch box served at 1.30pm).

Call the Berwyn Centre on (01656) 840439, email: berwyn.centre@bridgend.gov.uk.

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followed by Loadabo@*ocks Disco
Friday 4th June
Ruby Tuesday - Vocalist (9pm)
Saturday 5th June
Genine Louise - Sassy, classy & sexy female vocal (9pm) plus bingo
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Hospice to take 40 people on... Charity trek on the Great Wall



Janet Stuart, Rebecca Bailey, Lesley Taylor, Glynis Carter.

THE Marie Curie hospice at Penarth launched its fourth annual hospice trek on May 5 at the Oriental Garden, Red Dragon Centre, Cardiff Bay.

The hospice will be taking 40 local people to trek the Great Wall of China on September 2011.

Claire Notman, Community Fundraiser said: "This was our most successful launch to date. We had 35 people turn up on the evening with

seven of them registering right then and there, which was fantastic. We still have plenty of places, though, and are encouraging anyone who is interested to give me a call on 02920 426068, or email me at claire.notman@mariecurie.org.uk

"This will be our biggest hospice challenge to date and we aim to raise over £70,000, which will go towards more nursing care for terminally ill patients and their families in the Penarth Hospice."

VALE OF GLAMORGAN MIDWEEK CRICKET LEAGUE - WEEK THREE ROUND UP

Four-way tie at the top for cricket teams

AFTER three unprecedented dry weeks, four teams maintain a 100 per cent record.

Barry Athletic defeated Cardiff at the Diamond Ground. Batting first, Nathan Baker completed a third half-century of the season, his unbeaten 70 being the mainstay of the Stags' 154 for 4 with N Shea taking 2 for 18.

In reply, Dewi Preece and Elian Jones both scored 35 in the Cardiff score of 131 for 6, while Simon Phillips took 3 for 15 to maintain the Stags fine start.

Barry Internationals played hosts Penarth and won by nine wickets. The Seaside scored a decent 140 for 6, A Singh scored 46 while Abzal took 3 for 58. However, the Internationals won with some ease as Saleh (65 not out) and Temoor, with an unbeaten 50 saw the visitors home to a comfortable win.

Llantwit Cavaliers continued one of their best starts to a campaign with a 14-run win at Barry Wanderers. J Hill with 48 top-scored for a strong Wanderers, Jake MacNaughton returning 3 for 21 as the home

team amassed 145 for 9 in response to an excellent 159 all out from the Cavaliers.

Not for the first time, Julian Griffiths, who carried his bat and came within a whisker of scoring the season's first ten, led the Cavaliers attack, scoring 97 not out.

Defending champions Lisvane travelled to Llantwit and they recorded a second win of the season by defeating the Colts by 89 runs. Stuart Drury top scored with 45 not out in a score of 167 for 8 that contained 27 wickets.

F Wheatley, 2 for 10, was the pick of the bowlers. The Colts top score in their 78 for 8 was Neil Pritchard with 14, while Glyn Williams returned the best analysis of the season, by taking 5 for 23.

Elsewhere, Pencoed entertained a struggling Creigiau and recorded their first win of the season. Hitting 142 for 5, Richard Gregory top scored with 45, Pencoed then dismissed the visitors for just 75, J Frewen returning 3 for 16.

Lastly, Cogan Chiefs, chasing a Dinas Powys score of 106 in which Dave Sadler and Jamie Croll both captured a

brace of wickets, knocked their target off with some ease, the Smiths, Lloyd and Hugh, scoring 46 and 28 respectively.

At the time of writing, no result had been reported from the West End versus Fontygary clash.

Romilly does the double

BARRY Romilly Bowling Club's 'A' side played their SVLA match at Millwood Bowling Club on Saturday.

Unfortunately, Millwood had to play with two players short which was to their disadvantage. However, the match was played with both sides making the best of the situation.

Bob Wyatt's rink of C Collins, C Davies and K Westgate were the 'top bananas' in this match and led from start to finish. They went ahead 7-3 after eight ends and powered on to score another 30 shots over the remaining ends, a finish not seen since *Red Run's* last race, for a 37-11 rink win.

J Jones's rink of P Hoad, T Bloomfield and P Denley also had a strong game and were level at 13-13 after 10 ends. They then went on with some hot scoring, which included a big seven on the 16th end to win the rink 36-19.

Vince McFarland's rink of W Hewitt, A Burge and A Jones had a slow start but drew level on the ninth end. They picked up their game for a strong finish to win the rink 22-13.

Bryn Gough's rink of D Bannister, D Ford and J Coles had a close game and played well. It was a tit for tat game and the scores were level after 20 ends. Fortunately, Romilly won the final end 20-18.

The Romilly Club side played their WBA match against Barry

Central Bowling Club at Romilly Park on an improved green and with several changes in the team.

A Bryan's rink of R Blueit, B Cheal and G Rees had a strong game and were in front for most of the match. Their opponents went one shot in front on the 11th end, from which point Romilly upped their game, scoring 24 shots over the remaining 10 ends, including a big six, for a splendid 34-16 win.

Tony Freeman's rink of C Geen, D Cameron and P Gershenson also had a strong game with some splendid scoring, and led by 25-6 after 14 ends.

They did, however, slow down and allowed their opponents to score 11 shots over the last seven ends to reduce the margin. Romilly win 30-17.

Howard Jones's rink of M Doyle, P Herbert and M Gershenson had a close match despite Central's early lead for the first 14 ends. It was at this point that Romilly rallied and found some form, produced a better finish than their opponents and went on to win the rink 22-18.

Mel Newman's rink of G Eastment, G Whittaker and K Clements also had a close game and were behind up to the 14th end on which they drew level at 15-15. Romilly then pulled some shots out the bag to go on and win the game 21-8.

RH

Local tennis club is 'delighted' with its start to season

THERE have been more good results for the teams at Penarth Lawn Tennis Club in the Courtstall South Wales Leagues.

The Ladies' First team have played two more matches in Premier Division Two, winning one and losing one.

On May 5, they hosted Cardiff's second team, but with Briohny Selley and Jan Allen both unavailable, they were beaten 4-2.

The top pair of Alex Robinson and Caroline Hazell won one rubber, losing narrowly against their opposite numbers on a third set tie-break.

The second pair of Nicola Williams and Alys Cunningham also won one rubber, but Clare Heydon and 12-year-old Milly Williams were beaten in their two rubbers.

The Ladies recovered to convincingly beat Stow Park 5-1 in another home fixture on May 10. Briohny Selley returned to the side. She and Alex Robinson won both their matches very easily indeed for the loss of just four games in total.

The second pair of Nicola Williams and Caroline Hazell also performed well, winning their two rubbers while dropping just six games. Penarth's third pair of Alys Cunningham and Clare Heydon fought two closer matches, winning one, to complete the 5-1 scoreline.

The Men's first team maintained their 100 per cent start to their debut season in Premier Division Three, beating Firbank Dale 4-2 in Newport on Sunday.

The match did not start as planned, with Penarth top pair of Rob Cunningham and Gavin Seymour suffering their first defeat of the season, losing 6-7, 6-7, to their opposite numbers.

However, the second pair of Mark Lewis and James Williams beat the Firbank Dale third pair 6-2, 6-2, while the third pair of Jez Thomas and Adam Muse overcame the home second pair 6-2, 6-2, to leave Penarth 2-1 up after the first round.

Penarth's victory was sealed in the second round of matches. Cunningham and Seymour thumped the home second pair 6-2, 6-1, while Thomas and Muse beat their opposite numbers 6-1, 6-4. Lewis and Williams were beaten 6-7, 2-6 by the strong home top pair, to leave the match score 4-2.

Penarth are delighted with their start to the season, but a much tougher test will follow next weekend at home to

Penarth Windsor, who are also unbeaten in three matches.

The men's second team recovered from their opening day's disappointment, with a 5-1 home win against Whitchurch's third team in Division Five East.

the first pair of Martin Radford and Giles Gray, after a calamitous opening match against Penarth Windsor, started well this time round, beating their opposite numbers 7-6, 6-3 but then lost inexplicably to the Whitchurch second pair 3-6, 3-6.

Happily, the second pair of Ben Selley and Simon Clarke continued their unbeaten start to the season, thumping the Whitchurch third pair 6-2, 6-2 and the first pair 6-1, 6-4 with their usual explosive brand of tennis.

Penarth's third pair of Geoff Morgan and Tom O'Brien also won both their matches, 6-3, 6-2 against the visiting 2nd pair, and 6-4, 6-2 against their opposite numbers.

The men's third team are just one division below the second team, and began their campaign in Division Six East with a narrow 4-5 home defeat against Caerphilly's second team.

The first pair of Tom Pegg and Paul Robinson won one rubber easily but lost the other two, both on the dreaded third set tie-breaker.

The second pair of Dave Wilson and Colin Scammell managed to win two rubbers, one on a tie-break, but lost the other in straight sets.

The third pairing of Peter Snowton and Joe Hall also won one rubber on a match tie-break but lost the other two.

The ladies' second team have begun their season in Division Five

East with one win and one defeat. Their first match was a home tie against Dinas Powys' fourth team, in which the first pair of Vanessa Parselle and Beth Randall won their two rubbers in straight sets.

The second pair of Isobel Symonds and Kathy Muse won one of their two rubbers, but the third pair of Olivia Muse and Susan Lyons lost both their matches on third set tie-breaks.

However, the two sets won by Olivia and Susan proved crucial as Penarth won the match on sets countback with the scores tied at 3-3.

The ladies took a weaker team to their second match, away to Whitchurch second team, and were beaten 1-5. Only Penarth's second pair of Susan Lyons and Milly Williams managed to win one rubber, although the first pair of Deborah Gale and Olivia Muse were narrowly beaten on a third set tie-break in another.

The third pair Jill Monroe and Jane Crofts lost their matches in straight sets.

Stay tuned for more news of Penarth's team matches next week, in particular the clash between the first teams of Penarth and Penarth Windsor to see who will lead Premier Division Three after four matches. Windsor will start as the favourites but with an improved squad this year, the Rectory Road side are in with an outside chance.

For membership queries please visit www.pltc.org.uk or contact Chrissie Pegg on 07770473261.

For coaching, go to www.rothecoach.co.uk or contact Rob Cunningham on 07909987359.

Obi looks for peace and quiet!

Cats Protection, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend CF32 9UJ
Tel: 01656 726621 • Fax: 01656 722012
Email: bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk

THIS week: Obi is an 18-month-old neutered female, who is very friendly and gentle and likes having a lap to curl up on.

This is Obi's second visit to the centre; she was originally brought in because the home she was in was very busy and she found it too much to cope with. We found her a new home, but she was returned soon afterwards because her owner was allergic to her.

Obi needs a quiet home with no young children where she can be the one and only cat. She is a real sweetie and will make someone a lovely companion; she has been with us for over two months now, so is really desperate for somewhere to call home.

SUE DOBBS



Transition workshop

TRANSITION Cowbridge has organised a vegetable growing workshop on Saturday, June 5 (10am-4pm).

The workshop will cover the basics from planning and preparing a vegetable plot, soil, compost, crop rotation and how to plant. Cost (£15) to include lunch.

Further details on this workshop or others in the series from Dinky Kennedy on 01446 775686, or transitioncowbridge@googlemail.com

Vale point-to-point meeting is hoping for sunny weather

POINT-to-point enthusiasts from all over the country will be flocking to Bonvilston on Bank Holiday Monday for the Countryside Alliance Club (Wales) meeting and all eyes will be on farmer's son John Mathias (aged 19), who is making a bold bid to bring the national riders' championship title back to Wales.

Cowbridge's James Tudor was the last Welshman to win in the 2006/07 season when he rode a total of 37 winners, and the legendary Cowbridge farmer John Llewellyn was successful back in 1983.

Racing gets under way at 2pm and there will also be two pony races to wind up the south Wales season.

Meanwhile, a large crowd attended the sun-baked Gelligaer Farmers meeting where John

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

Mathias and Nathan Deakin both came away with doubles.

Mathias was successful on *Rosies Peacock* (confined) and *Mac Two* (restricted division two) and Deakin won with *Grey Kid* (mixed open) and *Bunny McDougall* (aged horse maiden). Ogmores jockey Nick Williams, assistant trainer to Evan Williams - no relation - was full of praise for the officials who spent days watering the course to provide good going for the horses. No doubt, Bonvilston farmer Tudor Harris, who owns the land the Countryside Alliance meeting will be racing over, has been out with his 'watering can' this week!

Shane Marsh, who rides out for Aberthryn trainer Tim Vaughan, chalked-up his first winner when landing the members' race on Paul Riddick's *Lester Leaps* In who beat stable mate

Pollerton Boy by just three parts of a length. *Pollerton Boy* was ridden by Robbie Williams who was having his first ride in a point-to-point. Llancarfan trainer Evan Williams had a double at Fakenham on Sunday with *Mutual Respect* and *Moon Melody*.

The latter was ridden by leading Welsh lady amateur rider Isabel Tompsett and the former by stable jockey Paul Moloney.

Aberthryn's Tim Vaughan also came away with a winner when his former point-to-pointer *Dead Or Alive* landed the Rex Carter Memorial Handicap Chase under Richard Johnson.

You can email your news/views to Brian Lee at leebrian@btinternet.com or phone him on 029 2073 6438.

Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools Senior track and field championships Cardiff International Sports Stadium

Curtis signs off in style at athletics event

CURTIS MATHEWS was the star of the show at the Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' senior championships, held at Cardiff International Sports Stadium at Leckwith.

The Barry Comprehensive year-13 student showed that he is in the shape to have an excellent summer of track and field, retaining his high jump, long jump and discus titles with improved performances on 2009.

Although he was closest to a new championship best in the long jump, where his 6.52 metres was only three centimetres short of

Chris Shepherd's 1996 mark, he was perhaps most impressive in the discus.

By Brett Morse's 2007 championships best of 52.64 metres, a winning discus mark of 39.41 might seem poor, but the lightness on his feet in the turn suggests that, as the season unfolds, he has the potential to improve by another five metres.

If one year-13 ended his appearance at this event on a high, there were mixed fortunes for two of last year's record breakers. Although she retained the triple jump title, and claimed the 100 metres hurdles title, Bro

Morgannwg year-13 Elinor Lewis will be disappointed that, after years of setting new championship bests, she failed at her opening height in the defence of her pole vault crown.

That failure may not be down to her technique. A significant part of the problem may well have been that one of the new upstarts could not be moved back to the 80-centimetre mark. The system could only be adjusted to 63 centimetres, whereas Lewis would have preferred the upstarts set back to at least 70 centimetres. It is a small margin, but one that can result in failure rather than clearance.

For the second of last year's record breakers, Ayla Phillips, a pupil at Llantwit

Major Comprehensive up to last year but now studying at Barry College, there is a problem of confidence.

In the hammer competition, the event at which she has set new best marks in her age group since 2006, at present she is trying too hard and overturning. The outcome is often a distance well below what she is capable of. Her winning distance of 24.94 metres is 10 metres down on last year, but was her only throw within the sector.

Once she relaxes and the technique improves, she knows that she has the ability to crack the 40-metre barrier – and she also has the knowledge that she has one more year at this competition. To add to the disappointment on the day, her winning put in the shot was also not up to her 2009 mark.

Her Vale 'throws' partner, year-13 Sian Balchin (Kings Monkton) retained her discus and javelin titles, improving her winning distance in the discus.

On the track, there

were enough competitors in the boys' 100 and 200 metres to warrant heats and a final.

Former St Richard Gwyn pupil Jamie Sexton, now competing in the colours of Barry College, won his heat and the final of the 100 metres. Year-12 students James Wiltshire (St Cyres, 400), Owen Haswell (Stanwell, 1,500) and Darren Jones (Llantwit, 2,000 Steeplechase) all had comfortable wins but the cool and blustery conditions resulted in times slower than they would have wanted.

The Cowbridge team scores were boosted by a shot and hammer double from Reuben Tucker, victory in the javelin from Nick Davies, a 400 hurdles and long jump double for Alice Thomas, and wins in the 1,500 metres and high jump respectively for Elspeth Bisson and Nicole Collier.

After her long-time absence because of injury, it was also good to welcome back Cerri-Anne Santos (St Cyres) with the year-12 student taking the 3,000 metres.

The Cowbridge policy of fielding two athletes in almost all events paid dividends as the school won both team competitions.

The winners from these championships will receive their award at the Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Schools track and field presentation evening at Cardiff High on Tuesday, September 7, starting at 7pm.

Before that event, Cardiff and the Vale team organisers Miss Sarah Moore and Mr Dai Williams (Glantaf) will be hoping that many of the athletes who took part at this fixture will also represent the district at the Aviva Welsh Schools National cham-

pionships, at Brecon on Saturday, July 3.

Cardiff and the Vale are defending the overall points trophy, which they won for the second time in three years last year.

Results of Vale pupils – **Senior boys** – 100: Ht 1: 4 Tom Phillips (Stan) 12.2; 6 Tom Sander (Cow) 12.5; Ht 2: 1 Jamie Sexton (Barry Coll) 11.6; 2 Fred White (Cow) 12.2; 4 Taylor Harding (Bro M) 12.5; Fin: 1 Jamie Sexton (Barry Coll) 11.4; 6 Fred White (Cow) 12.2; 200: Ht 1: 2 James Wiltshire (St Cyres) 24.1; 4 Fred White (Cow) 24.5; Ht 2: 1 Oliver Trotman (Cow) 23.7; 6 Robbie Thompson (Barry Comp) 27.6; Fin: 2 James Wiltshire (St Cyres) 23.4; 5 Oliver Trotman (Cow) 24.1; 6 Fred White (Cow) 24.3; 400: 1 James Wiltshire (St Cyres) 52.1; 2 Hywel Arcos (Barry Comp) 55.5; 4 Tom Harrison (Cow) 58.5; 5 Josh Kemp (Cow) 67.9; 800: 3 Dominic Farr (Bro M) 2:12.3; 6 Stefan Kitchen (Cow) 2:49.7; 7 Russell Watkins (Cow) 2:54.3; 1,500: 1 Owen Haswell (Stan) 4:24.9; 3 Joe Whitmarsh-Knight (Bro M) 4:47.8; 4 Mike Rosser (Cow) 5:13.4; 5 Stefan Kitchen (Cow) 5:25.2; 3,000: 2 Rhys Alexander (Cow) 12:01.1; 3 Josh Kemp (Cow) 13:20.5; 4 Kyle Garrison (Barry Coll) 13:36.2; 110H: 2 Mike Lloyd (Cow) 18.6; 4 Tom Harrison (Cow) 21.7; 400H: 2 Tom Phillips (Stan) 61.3; 4 Mike Lloyd (Cow) 65.6; 5 Sam Morgan (Cow) 69.9; 2,000 Sc: 1 Darren Jones (Llantwit) 7:11.0; 3 Tom Sander (Cow) 9:32.0; Rel: 1 Curtis Mathews (Barry Comp) 1.87; 2 Oliver Trotman (Cow) 1.80; 3 Mike Lloyd (Cow) 1.75; LJ: 1 Curtis Mathews (Barry Comp)

6.52; 2 Thomas Sander (Cow) 5.96; 4 Sam Bunkham (Cow) 5.46; TJ: 3 Sam Bunkham (Cow) 11.91; 5 Tom Harrison (Cow) 11.24; SP: 1 Reuben Tucker (Cow) 11.25; 2 Oliver Trotman (Cow) 10.23; 7 Hywel Arcos (Barry Comp) 7.92; Joe Hamonda (Barry Coll) 7.85; DT: 1 Curtis Mathews (Barry Comp) 39.41; 2 Nick Davies (Cow) 29.99; 4 Sam Dowell-Bennett (Cow) 24.88; HT: 1 Reuben Tucker (Cow) 22.80; 2 David Pittman (Barry Coll) 20.24; 3 Sam Dowell-Bennett (Cow) 18.02; 4 Kyle Garrison (Barry Coll) 15.28; JT: 1 Nick Davies (Cow) 35.61; 4 Stefan Kitchen (Cow) 32.84; 5 Kyle Garrison (Barry Coll) 30.00; 7 Taylor Harding (Bro M) 23.39.

Team: 1 Cowbridge 404.5; 5 Barry Comprehensive 97; 6 Barry College 64; 9 Bro Morgannwg 47.5; 10 Stanwell 39; 11 St Cyres 32; 12 Llantwit 17.

Senior girls – 100: 2 Amber Pringle (Bryn H) 16.3; 3 Louise Edwards (Cow) 16.8; 200: 2 Georgia Kemeys (Cow) 31.6; 3 Emily Renwick (Cow) 36.5; 400: 3 Beth Jarvis (Cow) 71.7; 4 Alice Thomas (Cow) 79.9; 800: 3 Eleri Phillips Griffiths (Bro M) 2:54.0; 4 Sabrina James (Cow) 3:01.3; 5 Megan Allman (Cow) 3:28.3; 1,500: 1 Elsbeth Bisson (Cow) 6:57.2; 2 Lucy Williams (Cow) 6:57.3; 3,000: 1 Cerri-Anne Santos (St Cyres) 13:48.7; 2 Holly Preece (Cow) 14:30.6; 3 Alison Bater (Cow) 14:41.8; 100H: 1 Elinor Lewis (Bro M) 18.3; 2 Kathryn Brown (Cow) 23.1; 400H: 1 Alice Thomas (Cow) 91.6; Rel: 1 Cowbridge 60.5; 2 Bryn Hafren 65.6; HJ: 1 Nicole Collier (Cow) 1.35; 2 Sian Balchin (Kings M) 1.05; 3 Jade



Jamie Sexton (Barry College) won his heat and the final of the 100 metres.



A senior title for Darren Jones (Llantwit) in the 2,000 metres steeplechase.



Disappointment for Elinor Lewis (Bro Morgannwg) with three failures at her opening height in the pole vault.

REPORT BY PETER MORRIS PHOTOGRAPHS BY IAN DIXON

Star golf club graduates are on home turf!



ABOVE: Stephen Dodd (centre) with Martin Vaughan and Calvin O'Carroll.

THREE of Brynhill Golf club's famous 'old boys' took a break from their professional schedule to play a little social golf back in Barry.

Stephen Dodd, who has already won more than \$250,000 this year in tournaments around the world, was joined by Martin Vaughan and Calvin O'Carroll, who are both teaching professionals at the world-famous La Manga Golf complex.

A club spokesman

said: "As well as being a friendly and welcoming club, Brynhill has turned out a steady production line of seriously-talented young golfers.

"Other players who have made their mark include Rhys Davies, Kyron O'Sullivan, Lewis James and Iestyn Taylor, who all reached the professional ranks after starting out at Brynhill."

He added: "Are there many other clubs that can boast as many professional golfers from their junior section?"

"So, why not give the pro a call and learn the game at Brynhill?"

Friday futsal set to sweep Vale

JUST in time for the World Cup, a new style of football is set to sweep the Vale with the launch of a Friday night Futsal League.

Boys aged 12 to 16 can get their mates together to create teams and play for free in the new league each week at the Cadroxton Sports Hall between 7pm and 9pm as part of the 5x60 scheme.

Invented in Brazil, futsal is an indoor version of football that uses a smaller ball with reduced bounce, encouraging players to use their flair and creativity, just like present day samba stars such as Kaka and Luis Fabiano.

Ben Williams, one of

the Vale Council's 5x60 Officers, has set up the league in partnership with local youth project 'Kick It' to create another way for local teenagers to hit the national target of exercising for at least 60 minutes, five days a week.

He said: "Don't just watch the World Cup, create your own competition by playing in the futsal league each week. You only need five to eight players for a team, and it costs nothing to play. All local teenagers are invited to put teams together, no matter what school you go to."

For further information about the futsal league please call Ben Williams on 07725 829801.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (TRINITY STREET, BARRY) DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE (VARIATION) ORDER 2010

1. On the 19th May 2010 The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 45, 46 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described below:

2. The Order will come into operation on 31st May 2010,

3. A copy of the Order and plans showing the affected areas may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

4. If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 31st May 2010 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE

The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Various Locations, Barry) (Disabled Persons Parking Places) (No.1) Order 2006, the following paragraph to be deleted from the Schedule:

Trinity Street, Barry

On its south-western side from a point approximately 7 metres south-east of its junction with the south-eastern side of Porthkerry Road, south-eastwards for a distance of 6.6 metres.

Dated this 27th day of May 2010.

M. Punter
Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe CF5 6AA.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (TRINITY STREET, Y BARRI) (AMRYWIO) (MANNAU PARCIO AR GYFER POBL ANABL) 2010

1. Ar 19 Mai 2010, yr oedd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adranau 45, 46 a 53 o Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwygiedig) a phob p_e_r galluogi arall, wedi gwneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn effeithio'n gyffredinol ar yr ardal yn y modd a ddisgrifwyd isod.

2. Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 31 Mai 2010,

3. Cewch weld copi o'r Gorchymyn a'r cynlluniau sy'n dangos yr ardaloedd dan sylw, yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

4. Os hoffech ddadlau yn erbyn dilyswrwydd y Gorchymyn neu'i ddarpariaethau am na chredwch fod gan y ddeddf uchod bwer i'w gweithredu, neu am y tybiwch eu bod yn methu â chydymffurfio â gofynion y ddeddf uchod neu un o'i hofferfynau, bydd gennych chwe wythnos o 31 Mai 2010 i wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys i'r diben hwnnw.

ATODLEN

TGorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Lleoliadau Amrywiol yn y Barri) (Mannau Parcio ar gyfer Pobl Anabl) (1) 2006. Diliwch y paragraff canlynol o'r atodlen:-

Trinity Street, y Barri

Ar ei hochr dde-orllewinol o fan sydd ryw 7 metr i'r de-ddwyrain o'r gyffordd ag ochr dde-ddwyrainiol Porthkerry Road, am 6.6 metr i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain.

Dyddiedig 27 Mai 2010.

M. Punter
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gwladwy
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenvoe. CF5 6AA.

Labour group keep chair of key committees

LABOUR have kept hold of the chairs and deputy chairs of a number of key committees at BCBC's annual meeting.

Development control will continue to be chaired by Mike Gregory, with Hywel Williams as his deputy. The appeals panel is chaired by Reg Jenkins,

with deputy Marlene Thomas. Licensing will be chaired by Keith Edwards, with Clive James as deputy.

Leader Mel Nott and deputy Dave Sage, who were both re-elected, act as chair and deputy chair of the town and community council forum.

All cabinet posts remain the same: Lyn Morgan remains with well being, with Alana

Davies as cabinet member for children and young people; Coun John Spanswick for communities and Coun Huw David for resources.

Cabinet members receive £17,336 on top of the basic allowance of £13,868. The council leader's post pays up to a maximum of £36,139 also on top of the basic allowance, but Coun Mel Nott has opted not to take the increase that was approved last March.

Coun David Sage is entitled to £22,537 on top of the basic allowance, but has also opted not to take the increase.

The new mayor is Coun Colin Teesdale of Maesteg, and his deputy is Coun Chris Michaelides of Betws. Both will be installed at ceremonies taking place this week.

Committee members can have a deputy representative

ORGANISATIONS that sit on a committee of Porthcawl Town Council are to be allowed to nominate a deputy if their usual representative is unavailable.

This issue upset John Berry, president of Porthcawl YMCA, who said that the council should allow organisations to send someone else to meetings in the place of their designated nominee.

When the issue was discussed at a special meeting of the adminis-

tration committee, members agreed that each organisation sitting on committees like tourism and events could designate a principal member and a reserve member.

Both would have to sign the council code of conduct.

The principal members would normally attend meetings, but the deputy would go in his place if he was unable to be present. The deputy could also sit in as an observer at meetings.

All organisations on tourism and events will now be contacted and offered the chance to appoint a deputy.

Leaders stay clear at top

B ATTACK had Rich Lewis to thank as he gave them that bit extra in a 1-0 defeat of Dunraven to remain at the summit of the Bridgend Six-a-side Premier Division.

Daniel York pulled the strings for Croissants as they humbled The Pie Boys 7-0, preserving the pressure in the process, while Day Sleepers remain firmly in the mix following a commanding 7-2 win over Persil Boys.

Athletico Brackla demonstrated just why they sit top of Division One as James King crowned a fine performance with the man of the match award in a 6-1 defeat of Laleston Lions

If anyone is interested in joining the Bridgend Six-a-side Leisure League, they can call 0845 230 2340 or visit www.leisureleagues.net

Premier Division

Team Name	Played	Goal Diff	Points
B Attack	9	22	15
Croissants	9	29	13
Day Sleepers	9	9	13
Hangover Heroes	9	-2	10
dunraven	9	3	9
Racing Inter	9	-12	5
The Pie Boys	9	-21	5
Persil Boys FC	9	-28	2
Division 1			
Athletico Brackla	9	23	17
Bulldogs	9	6	14
Hardly Athletic	9	1	10
Dead End Jobs, But			
Football Gods	9	4	9
Young Exiles	9	6	8
Laleston Lions	9	-5	6
Team Xtreme	9	-12	4
Inter Wildmill	9	-23	4

Mystery of Cypuss the immigrant!



Cypuss, the long distance traveller.

WHEN animal health officers at Bridgend County Borough Council picked up a stray cat in North Cornelly, a routine check showed it had been micro-chipped.

They dubbed it 'Cypuss' and are now appealing for any information about him. Helen Picton, head of Bridgend Trading Standards, reported: "Cypuss is a very cute, grey and white, neutered male who is approximately two or three years old, but that's as much as we know."

"He's only young, but he has obviously had a really well-travelled life so far. We would love to find out more about him and even reunite him with his owner."

"Unfortunately, because we don't know when he entered the UK, he has had to go into quarantine at a local cattery, so if anyone has any information about him, please come forward," she urged.

If you can solve the mystery, call BCBC's animal health department on 01656 643479, or The GEM newsroom on 01446 774484.

Centre appeal after surge of unwanted cats

CATS Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre has repeated an emergency appeal in response to a dramatic rise in the number of unwanted cats needing the charity's help.

The centre at Pant Hirwaun, Brynceithin, is part of the charity's nationwide network of 253 volunteer-run branches and 29 adoption centres, parts of which have experienced a sudden increase in the numbers of cats being brought in.

Bridgend Adoption Centre is one of the worst affected, with more than 250 cats and kittens in its care and 283 on the waiting list.

Sue Dobbs, the centre manager said: "I have been managing the centre for more than 12 years and have never known the situation to be so dire; we are currently dealing with a record number of abandoned and unwanted cats and kittens, some of which have needed



SANDY.

urgent vet treatment"

"Sandy and Rizzo are two of the cats dumped recently. They were admitted to us in poor condition and had lost an eye each due to untreated flu. They are very loving cats and had obviously been somebody's pets at one point, as they both had collar marks on."

Peter Hepburn, the charity's chief executive said: "This surge in unwanted cats is extremely distressing. It is a crisis for the cats and it piles additional pressure onto our volunteers."

"Our network of branches and centres are already stretched to the limit looking after the cats in their care. I fear this could push the charity to breaking point if it continues and leave us unable to help the many thousands of unwanted cats out there, so we are urgently asking for help."

Anyone wishing to help by adopting a cat or kitten or making a donation, can call Bridgend Adoption Centre on 01656 724396 or email bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk

New joint patrols will target illegal off-road bikers

SOUTH Wales Police and Forestry Commission Wales are targeting illegal bikes and 4x4 vehicles in Maesteg and Caerau with a simple message: 'No more off-road nuisance'.

Neighbourhood police will be working alongside Forestry Commission Wales and other partner agencies to crack down on offenders who are illegally riding or driving on prohibited land, tracks and trails without permission from land owners and land managers, and those who are riding antisocially.

The teams will be led by Forest Crime Officer Sergeant Andrew Scourfield, who is currently seconded to Forestry Commission Wales.

He said: "Illegal off-road motorcycling and driving might be perceived as a victimless crime by some, but that really isn't the case."

"Farmers and landowners have to foot the bill for criminal damage caused to property as a selfish few gain unlawful access to land, and the environmental damage caused is spoiling the countryside that so many of us like to enjoy in the summer months."

"We want to reassure our rural communities that off-road nuisance won't be tolerated; we're listening to their concerns and are tackling rural crime and antisocial behaviour in all its forms to keep south Wales safe."

During the campaign, officers will also be carrying out targeted proactive patrols in Cymmer, Ton Pentre, Tonypandy, Ferndale and Mountain Ash, using their powers to stop and search vehicles and seize them where appropriate.

Officers will also be educating off-road motorcyclists and drivers on places where they can enjoy activities in a safe and legal environment, in order to prevent future incidents occurring.

Sergeant Scourfield said: "It's important to make the public aware that not all riders who appear to drive off-road 'scrambler' type bikes are breaking the law."

"Many are responsible riders who bike on the roads legally and ride on by-ways and legal tracks. These riders follow a code of conduct and enjoy the countryside in the same way as a walker, cyclist or horse rider."

"This campaign isn't targeted at all off-road riders - it's specifically targeting those who ride unlawfully or in an antisocial manner, and are spoiling other people's quality of life."

Peter Cloke, Deputy Forest District Manager of Forestry Commission Wales said: "We often receive complaints from

visitors who have had their visit to the forest spoiled due to the irresponsible behaviour of a minority of scrambler bike users."

"We welcome the support of South Wales Police in cracking down on antisocial motorcycle use in the forests of south Wales."

Other forms of rural crime - such as fly-tipping, grass fires and wildlife crime will also be addressed by officers during the summer crackdown.

To report a non-emergency incident to South Wales Police, dial 101, or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Artists' colony idea floated in Porthcawl

AN artists' colony along the lines of Newlyn or St Ives could be established in Porthcawl, based at a proposed new visual arts centre.

The centre would include studio space which local artists and art groups could use, and would also incorporate a gallery to display the work created, plus a shop and coffee bar.

The group behind the scheme is the Oriel Visual Arts group (OVA) which was formed last summer but which sprang from the arts forum based at the Grand Pavilion.

The group is suggesting that the empty Jennings Building on Porthcawl Harbour would be a suitable venue and would bring an all-year round use to a building right at the heart of the regeneration area.

The centre would also provide the town with a valuable tourist attraction, giving visitors somewhere different to go.

The proposals are due to be discussed at Porthcawl Town Council tonight and they have also gone to the team handling Porthcawl Regeneration.

The centre would also provide a base for the wider arts generally, including people engaged with music, dance, poetry and writing.

The plan has the backing of numerous arts groups and others locally - including Arts for the Earth, Silures Gallery artists and Porthcawl Grand Pavilion.

The gallery would also be the first public gallery in Bridgend county borough and would serve the whole area.

The report, put together by the group, states that many professional artists and photographers already live in Porthcawl, and a centre that would provide a base for them to meet and collaborate would help bring art to the community.

It would provide rentable workshop space, as there is no affordable studio space for artists available. By working

together, they could share ideas and skills.

The public gallery element would give amateur and professional artists a showcase and would be a year-round visitor attraction.

The centre could also be used to stage a variety of arts and crafts activities for all age groups, as well as courses.

It could also act as an art supplies shop by buying in commercial quantities and this would generate income.

A coffee shop and reading room would bring people in, provide a haven from bad weather and encourage people into the gallery. A shop could sell the artwork created by the artists in the building.

The plan is to open it seven days a week from 9am to 9pm, all year around.

Jennings Buildings is the number one option, as it would bring a large, listed building back into use and prevent further deterioration.

But failing that, the centre could be included in the new leisure building planned for the harbour quarter or it could be included in the Community Hub. There is also the option of using an old chapel.

The group is chaired by Jean Floe, who is also an artist and who worked as visual arts organiser at the Grand Pavilion until her retirement.

She is active with various art groups including Silures and Trinity Arts Group which has 50 members.

"We are seeking support initially from Porthcawl Town Council and then hope that our ideas will be discussed by BCBC," she explained. "We have already spoken to some of the councillors and to the regeneration officers, who have had a copy of our proposals."

"The regeneration is the ideal time to get a scheme like this off the ground and I am hoping it will act as a catalyst for bringing about something that would benefit residents and visitors alike and would also be something the whole borough could use and enjoy."

FORMER ASSISTANT CLERK STEPS UP AS NEW TOWN MAYOR!

A WOMAN who once worked for Bridgend Town Council as an assistant clerk has just taken over the top job – as mayor!

Barbara Parish was installed by outgoing mayor Mervyn Lewis at the council's annual meeting.

Mrs Parish has worked in a secretarial role at a number of local organisations, including the old Mid Glamorgan Water Board, Ogwr Borough Council, the town council and South Wales Police.

She still works as the administrator and company secretary of the Welsh Chamber Orchestra and enjoys travelling around Wales with them to concerts and helping to organise their activities.

Mrs Parish is the widow of the well-known local businessman Roger Parish, who

by JAYNE ISAAC



ABOVE: The out-going mayor, Coun Mervyn Lewis, passes the chain of office to Coun Barbara Parish.

ran a carpet stall in Bridgend market for many years.

The couple also kept the Castle public house in Derwen Road for a few years.

"It was a great time, but it was exhausting because the people coming were our friends, so it was like having a party in your home

every night!" she recalled.

Barbara was brought up in Bridgend but the family moved to Cardiff when she was nine for her father's work.

She returned when she was 24 because she had met Roger and was getting married.

Her parents had come back a few years earlier

and her father – Jack Gardener – was a well-known rugby and football trainer.

Mrs Parish has two grown up children – son Jason and daughter Victoria – who will jointly act as her consort to attend official functions. She also has a grand-daughter Caitlin, who is nine.

The family lived at Greenmeadow Farm in Pencoed for 12 years, but then they moved to Ystrad Fawr, where Barbara now lives.

She was a Young Conservative but rejoined the party when she retired from the police. She was elected to the town council two years ago and enjoys the work.

"It's nice to see things from the other side of the chamber after working as an assistant clerk and playing fields secretary in the past. I am looking forward to being mayor," she added.

Surf lifesaving club looks forward to new season



ABOVE: Cieran Hughes (nipper captain).



ABOVE: Rhys Jones the senior captain.



ABOVE: Rebecca Bown (junior captain)

SOUTHERNDOWN Surf Lifesaving Club Members have had an extremely busy winter season.

All members have been taking awards, such as nipper water safety, RLSS pool bronze, pool lifesaver awards and keeping up their skills and fitness ready for the beach season which has just begun.

We would like to congratulate everyone who gained new awards, and all those who took part in the still water competitions this year.

Our nipper squad deserves a special mention, coming an impressive eighth, despite being a relatively small team. Congratulations to Cieran Hughes, who won silver in the board race this year.

We have also been busy raising funds. Over the last year we have purchased new equipment, including full first aid and advanced resuscitation gear, an IRB, new rescue boards and a defib.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts, especially Franklins Cafe in Ogmre, The Three Golden Cups in Southerndown, Regal



Travel, Celtic Cameras in Bridgend, PMs surf shop in Porthcawl and all our club members, who have supported our wide range of sponsored swimming, iron man, super nipper and coffee drinking ideas.

This last week saw our return to Dunraven Bay after months training at Atlantic College swimming pool.

Although the conditions were cold, we all enjoyed practicing some beach skills for a change.

All age groups are now eager to take their nipper, junior and senior beach awards in the next few weeks.

The club continues to



grow and we now have two nipper, two junior and one seniors/masters sessions a week. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the nipper, junior and senior captains: Cieran Hughes, Rebecca Bown and Rhys Jones for their continued hard work and dedication

KAREN BALE club chairperson

Bridgend choir returns home from concert dates in England

BRIDGEND Male Choir is returning home for two local engagements after recent performances in England to celebrate its 50th birthday year.

On a busy weekend, it performed at Bristol's Cathedral of St Peter and St Paul, before moving on to Europe's largest cathedral, the Anglican Cathedral at Liverpool.

At Bristol, it was joined by soprano, Helen-Jane Howells, who was taking a break from her busy Glyndebourne Opera season to sing with a choir which she befriended

following her success with the Russell Sheppard Scholarship a few short years ago.

The most wonderful acoustics in this modern building made for a great occasion.

On then to Liverpool, for choristers to be enraptured by the vastness of the magnificent auditorium filled with an appreciative congregation, including many dignitaries, servicemen and ex-servicemen who had come to mark the 65th V E Day Anniversary, signifying the end of WW2.

At Liverpool, Bridgend Male Choir was joined in its performance by Adam

Smith, a young tenor with a big future from the Northern College of Music & Drama and also by the Band of the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment. Standing ovations were received at both venues.

The choir returns to Merseyside in October to sing at Liverpool's Catholic Cathedral, making a unique double.

At 7pm on Friday, June 4, the choir will sing at Bethlehem Church Life Centre at Cefn Cribbwr in what has become an annual event, when it invites an overseas choir to perform with it.

This time the visitors are the excellent 50-

strong Dutch Millennium Choir, which is on a short tour from its Utrecht home to south Wales.

The £5 admission cost is expected to be good value. Tickets are available from the Bethlehem Church Life Centre; the News Shop, Dunraven Place, Bridgend and from choir secretary, Gareth Reese, 01656 862037.

Another date for the diary is Saturday, June 12, when a number of soloists and choirs, including Bridgend Male Voice, will appear from 6pm at Coity Castle in the annual 'Choirs in the Castle' event.

Southerndown's golf ladies sharpen their short games!

NEWLY-QUALIFIED assistant professional, Simon Askins has taken the ladies of Southerndown Golf Club under his wing and started group coaching.

Twenty took part in chipping lessons and hopefully, with further practice, their efforts will pay off on the golf course. Simon recently achieved his PGA Level 2 coaching award.

Kath Evans and Caroline Kelly have beaten Dinas Powys ladies in the Mail on Sunday Foursomes competition. In a tough match at Dinas Powys, they battled through to round five.



Police to set up new team

SOUTH Wales Police is hoping to start a new rugby team – at under-16 level – in time for next season.

After successfully running a youth side to celebrate 40 years of rugby at South Wales Police RFC last season, they are now looking at setting up a younger team

A spokesperson for South Wales Police RFC said: "We would like to work with the community and develop rugby, and that there a lot of players in

the borough who haven't played rugby for a while, or who only play school rugby.

"This could be their chance to take up a new challenge offered at South Wales Police RFC."

He added that facilities at Waterton Cross are being up-graded for next season, and that this will ensure anyone joining will be looked after and be offered good coaching at a safe environment. For more details, telephone 07780547974 or 07799 63 66 22 BS

Southerndown Surf Club's youngsters perform out west

LAST bank holiday weekend, members of Southerndown Surf Club travelled to Pembroke to compete in the Quiksilver Welsh National Surfing Championships, held at Freshwater West, with surfers from all over the country turning up to take part in the event.

With the sun shining and the surf perfect for the junior divisions, Callum Howell (11), Cai Allin (12), Mali Howell (9), Owen Alexander (12), Cieran Hughes (10), Josh Brace (11) and Tyler Rogers (12), all entered and surfed well in the challenging conditions to progress through to the semi finals in their respective age groups.



From left to right: Callum Howell (11), Cai Allin (12), Mali Howell (9), Owen Alexander (12), Cieran Hughes (10), Josh Brace (11), Tyler Rogers (12).

Callum and Cieran made it through to the finals of the under-12 division and Owen made it through to the under-14 finals, where in clean 3ft surf, mums, dads and an entourage of friends and family watched as Callum came second behind Max Payne from Cornwall, with Cieran placed third in the under-12s followed by

Owen finishing fourth in the under-14s.

It was a great atmosphere, with all the club members surfing really well. Everyone had a fantastic weekend with a few of the families staying to enjoy the weather and celebrate the club's success.

Southerndown Surf Club is run by the parents and children of

Ogmre-by Sea, Southerndown and St Brides Major with the help of a Community Chest Grant from the Vale Council. The children enjoy a safe and fun club where they can learn basic surfing techniques through to more advanced levels of surfing while having a great time.



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Look who's 40!

May 28, 2010.

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X X X

Family Notices

TILLEY

David Andrew

Helen, Michael and Caroline would like to say thank you for the many flowers, cards, letters and phone calls of condolence received during their sad loss, and to all who attended the funeral.

The care given to David by Dr Jones' practice staff, especially Dr Pardoe, Sister Maggie and staff of Ward 16, Princess of Wales Hospital, Velindre Hospital, staff and nurses at Y Bwthyn Newydd, To Father Julian Jenkins for all his support, Thomas Bros, Cowbridge, for being so understanding, and contributors to Ty Hafan Children's Hospice.

David will be forever in our hearts.

BINMORE

Elizabeth Winifred née Dimascio

At Princess of Wales Hospital on Tuesday May 18, 2010, following a short illness, Betty, formerly of Cardiff and St Athan.

Beloved wife of the late Ivor and loving and much-loved mother of Elizabeth and the late Adrian and Michelle, also dear mother-in-law of Jan, Joy and Mary. Adored nana of John, Tina and Wyn.

Funeral service at Thornhill Crematorium on Thursday June 3 at 11.15am.

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COWBRIDGE PUPILS' COUNTRY WALK BOOSTS FUNDS FOR CHRISTIAN AID



A TOTAL of 53 pupils from Cowbridge Comprehensive recently walked from Cowbridge Town Hall car park to Pendoylan Church in support of Christian Aid.

The pupils, staff and parents crossed the fields to Aberthin, then walked along the lanes to Welsh St Donats and finished the walk by following the paths through Hensol Woods to Pendoylan.

The weather was kind to the walkers and the most difficult part of the day was getting the 67 walkers over about 20 stiles!

The pupils were met

at Pendoylan Church by the Reverend Edwin Counsell, vicar of Pendoylan.

Members of staff were seen taking on liquid at the Red Lion Pub soon afterwards!

The day was a great success – as well as pupils taking part, six mums and dads turned out and eight members of staff walked with the pupils.

The school are grateful to the community of Welsh St Donats for the use of the village hall as a comfort stop. More than £1,500 has been raised by the walkers and their supporters. Thanks are due to all who took part in and supported the walk.

GA

Cottrell Park golf tourney to mark Armed Forces Day

NATIONAL Armed Forces Day will be held in Cardiff on June 26, and a number of events are planned in the

run-up to it, including an Armed Forces Golf Tournament.

The tournament will take place on

Wednesday, June 23, at Cottrell Park Golf Club. The tournament is open to current serving Armed Forces personnel, reserve forces, veterans, cadets and personnel

working within the MoD.

The day will feature both a Royal British Legion individual competition and a team competition dedicated to the Richard Hunt Foundation.

Cottrell Park has two 18-hole courses and the club has agreed to sponsor the day by waiving the green fees.

Tickets for the tournament are £20, which will include 18 holes of golf, a bacon roll and a hot drink on arrival, plus a hog roast buffet and a presentation to the lucky winners.

The main organiser of the tournament, Dave Morris, who is also a member of the Armed Forces Day Committee, said: "This event is the first of its kind for National Armed Forces Day and we hope to repeat the event again next year."

"I would personally like to thank both the sponsor of the individual event, the Royal British Legion, and Hazel Hunt of The Richard Hunt Foundation, who will be presenting the prizes to the winners of the team event."

Anyone interested in taking part can go to www.armedforcesday-wales.co.uk and follow the links to download an application form, or contact Dave Morris from the Armed Forces Day committee on 01446 772043, or email: davcemorris@tiscali.co.uk

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Development in Conservation Areas Datblygiad mewn Ardal oeddd Cadwraeth

Application No./ Rhif y cais:	2010/00481/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig:	Demolish existing dwelling construction of new including conversion existing barn
Location/Leoliad:	The Rickyard, Upper Farm Court, Rhoose Road, Rhoose
Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Rhoose
Application No./ Rhif y cais:	2010/00492/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig:	Addition of porch and enclosed patio to side and rear of existing dwelling
Location/Leoliad:	Ty Ffynnon, Llanmaes, Llantwit Major
Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Llanmaes

Listed Building Consent Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestrddig

Application No./ Rhif y cais:	2010/00497/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig:	Construction of new lean to single storey workshop in location of ruined existing outbuilding
Location/Leoliad:	Plymouth House West, Dimlands Road, Llantwit Major
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestrddig	Grade II

Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Adeilad Rhestrddig

Application No./ Rhif y cais:	2010/00496/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig:	Construction of new lean-to single storey workshop in location of ruined existing outbuilding
Location/Leoliad:	Plymouth House West, Dimlands Road, Llantwit Major
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestrddig	Affecting Plymouth House, Garden Wall, Gate, Mounting Block and Stables which are all Grade II Listed Buildings

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vogl.planning-register.co.uk

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeidd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chliudiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i vogl.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 27 May, 2010
Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 27 Mai, 2010
Rob Thomas
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chliudiant
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfa'r Doc,
Dociau'r Barri,
Y Barri
CF63 4RT

Evenlode Primary pupils enjoy their 'smashing' day's tennis



Budding Vale tennis players are pictured with tennis coach Rob Cunningham.

PUPILS from Evenlode Primary School in Penarth have retained their title as the Vale's top tennis aces after winning seven out of nine events in a county-wide primary schools championships.

In a competition organised by the Vale Council's Dragon Sport team in conjunction with local tennis coaches, teams of boys and girls from across the Vale served, volleyed and smashed their way through singles and doubles matches in three age groups at Windsor and Dinas Powys Lawn Tennis Clubs.

Evenlode won the majority of the titles available last year, but had even more success this time around, starting with a clean sweep of the boys, girls and mixed events in the year-6-and-under age group (mini green).

The school also tasted victory in the boys and girls events at year-5-and-under (mini orange), with Llansannor Primary School taking the mixed title; while in the youngest category of year-3-and-under (mini red) Evenlode also won the boys and girls competitions, with St Andrew's Major C/W Primary School triumphing as mixed champions.

All of the winners will now go forward to represent the Vale at the south Wales regional finals.

The Vale Council's Dragon Sport co-ordinator Rachel McGuinness said: "Tennis is extremely popular in the Vale and all of the children who played in the championships had a great time."

Archers hit the support bullseye!



Junior archers Isaac, Liam and Ben checking that their arrows have hit the target at Boverton Archery Court.

THANKS to the incredible generosity of the people of Llantwit Major, Llantwit Major Junior Archers have managed to raise an amazing £1,080 towards the cost of a new sit-on lawn-mower and shed for their outdoor practice site at Boverton Archery Court.

The young Archers hope to hit their fundraising target on Saturday, June 5, when they will take part in a 12-hour sponsored shoot!

For the only time this year, the court will be open to members of the public from 1pm-4pm on

that date – a fantastic chance to have a go at archery for only £1 with some of Wales' top instructors!

The juniors would like to say a huge thank you to Filco Stores and their customers, and also the team of 'Super Mum' organisers and archers, Caroline, Sally, Catherine, Claire, Julie, Nathan, Connor, Molly, Verity, Liam, Gethyn, Kath, Joe, Ben and Jack.

Very special thanks to the archery instructors for the juniors, Mark and Yoke Lunn, as well as the archery club committee for their support.

Please contact the club through the website www.lmarchers.com

JR

St David's pupils helps ice hockey team to gold

A VALE schoolboy who plays for Cardiff Junior Devils, Jake Roberts of St David's School, Colwinston, was recently selected to represent his region as part of the South West Conference ice hockey team.

The Conference teams – south west England, south east England, mid-

land, northern England, and Scotland – travelled to Hull in early May to compete in the junior inter-conference championship. The selection process is tough, with this tournament showcasing the best junior ice hockey talent in the UK.

The south west team enjoyed an easy 7-1 win over northern conference, and followed that up with a 3-0 win over scottish conference late the same evening.

Their match the next day, against the midland conference, ended with a 1-0 loss, after captain Josh Waller just failed to capitalise on a penalty shot for the equaliser.

Their match the next

home the gold medal.

SPORTS NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Under-13s are just pipped in Urdd Sevens final

THE year-7/8 rugby team entered the Urdd Welsh Nationals Sevens tournament held at Strade School, Llanelli.

After their experience of playing in Berkhamsted and Rosslyn Park Sevens, the school under-13 team looked forward to the challenge. In the group stages they won each game comfortably.

Ystalyfera 28-7 – Tries: George Griffiths (three), Tom Trotman (one plus four conversions), Alex Guard.

Coedlæ School, Llanelli 43-0 – Tries: Josef Gaughan (three), George Griffiths, Nicky Griffiths, Harri Dowell Bennett (two). Conversions: Alex Guard (four), Joshua Thomas.

Cardinal Newman, Pontypridd 31-0 – Tries: Tom Trotman (four plus one conversion), Alex Guard (one plus three conversions).

This put them into the knock-out stages where they played **Llancaut, Neath, winning 50-0**. Tries: George Griffiths, Nicky Griffiths (two), Josef Gaughan (two), Harri Dowell-Bennett (two plus one conversion), Tom Trotman. Conversions: Alex Guard (four).

The team qualified for the last 10 for the next

day. Two pools of five played a round robin tournament with winners and runners-up reaching the semi-finals.

First up was Treorchy Comprehensive, and the school won 57-0 – Tries: George Griffiths, Nicky Griffiths, Josef Gaughan (four), Harri Dowell-Bennett (one plus one conversion). Joshua Thomas. Conversions: Alex Guard (four).

Next was Strade School, Llanelli and Cowbridge lost 24-14. It was the first time the team had been under pressure and missed tackles and poor decision making did not help in this physical encounter.

Tries: George Griffiths (two). Conversions: Alex Guard (two).

The third game was Maes-Yr-Yrfa, where Cowbridge won 26-21.

This was another close game where the opposition applied pressure which led to mistakes. A try by George Griffiths in the final play of the game gave the team a win to stay in the competition.

Tries: George Griffiths (two), Harri Dowell-Bennett (two plus one conversion). Conversions: Alex Guard (two).

Finally, it was Preseli and Cowbridge won 49-0: Tries: George Griffiths, Nicky Griffiths, Josef Gaughan (three), Tom Trotman,

Joshua Thomas (one plus three conversions). Conversions: Alex Guard (four).

Cowbridge finished runners-up in the group and played the other group winners, Cefn Saeson Comprehensive School, in the semi-final.

The loss of powerful runner Harri Dowell-Bennett with a broken arm in the final match of the group did not deter the boys as they played their best Sevens of the day to defeat Cefn Saeson 45-14 – Tries: George Griffiths (four), Josef Gaughan (two), Joshua Thomas (one plus one conversion). Conversions: Alex Guard (four).

The boys were very disappointed that the final was not to be held at Parc y Scarlets, as it was last year, and at Stradey Park for many years before that. The cost of hiring the Parc y Scarlets ground was way beyond the Urdd budget.

The amount of work that the Urdd organisation does for sport, especially the two-day event for rugby, you would have thought the Welsh Rugby Union would have been pleased to help the development and continued interest in the game of rugby.

Nevertheless, the boys played the final on the excellent pitch of Coleg Sir Gâr against local

school Ysgol y Strade.

In the first half, the team continued using pace and space and went into a two-try lead. Just before half-time, Strade struck back with a try.

Injuries to Joshua Thomas and Adam Dix, together with some tight calls by the referee, gave the game an exciting finish.

Pressure by the Strade School gave them an equalising try. Cowbridge could not get the ball out to their quick boys because of the pressure they were under and finally, this resulted in a winning try for Strade.

Final score: 17-14 – Tries: George Griffiths, Josef Gaughan. Conversions: Alex Guard (two).

This was a tremendous effort by all the squad over two days to finish runners-up in the National Sevens Tournament.

A big thank you to year-8 for an excellent season overall and we hope they go from strength to strength as they continue up through the school. Thank you to the parents who have supported the boys and the school during the season.

Vale Cup year-8

The delayed Vale Cup year-8 against Stanwell was played at Cowbridge Rugby Club with year-8 winning 47-15. Tries

were by George Griffiths (four) and Josef Gaughan (three) and conversions were by Sean Rowland (six).

Full squad: Sean Rowland, George Griffiths, Josef Gaughan, Nicky Griffiths, Owen Ace, Alex Guard, Harri Goodfellow, Callum O'Brien, Tom Higgins, Sam Richards, Noah Johnston, Nathaniel Weaver, Mathew Lock, Aaron Bowman, Mark Herbert, Dan Holder, Mathew Howells, Llwyd Elms.

Boys excel at athletics meet
COWBRIDGE
boy's athletics squad put in some fantastic performances at the recent combined athletics meeting at Leckwith.

In the junior boys competition, there was an outstanding performance from George Griffiths from year-8, who finished fifth overall in a very competitive field with many year-9 pupils.

Harry Hitchcock was the top finisher (10th) in the middle boy's event, closely followed by James Williams from year-11 and then Matt Whiteley and Christian Roberts-Walters.

The senior event is where the boys produced some outstanding results,

with Oliver Trotman finishing third, Tom Sander sixth, Sam Bunkham seventh, Fred White eighth, Tom Harrison ninth, Steffan Kitchen 10th and Michael Rosser 11th.

Even more pleasing was the fact that this year saw the highest-ever number of competitors in the senior boy's event. Cowbridge Comprehensive School provided 50 per cent of the competitors which is testament to the dedication, commitment and enthusiasm of our pupils.

Well done boys!

Senior tennis marathon game
THE senior tennis squad advanced to the semi-finals of the Glavill Cup competition for Wales and west of England after a tense win against St John's School at the National Tennis Centre.

Top seed Tom Kamal won his singles comfortably, and No 2 seed David Humphries also got a vital win. However, St John's third and fourth seed comfortably securing wins over Theo Mann and Adam Wood, the doubles would be vital.

Captain Tom Kamal paired himself with Adam Wood and in a hard-fought game, and the school secured a



ABOVE: Oliver Trotman



RIGHT: Mike Lloyd

close win with 6-4, 7-5.

Unfortunately, David Humphries and Theo Mann were well beaten, which resulted in the tie entering a shoot out.

Did St John's make a mistake in selection when they changed their top pair? The still warm partnership of Kamal and Wood powered their way to a 10-8 victory in the shoot out after five-and-a-half hours on court.

Under-15 cricket
COWBRIDGE
were confident heading to Cardiff High in round two of the Cardiff and Vale under-15 Cup, with both Sam Wood and Todd Wilcox having made the Welsh under-15 cricket team.

Sam Wood opened the batting with an impressive 41, partnered by Jack Davies who wasn't too far behind with 32. Skipper Will Antoni was bowled for a score of 13

and, with the remainder of the batting order averaging 10 runs each, Cowbridge amassed a total of 169 off 20 overs.

On a pacy wicket, Cowbridge strangely opened their bowling with makeshift spinner Todd Wilcox, who managed to take a wicket with his third over. Sam Wood slowed Cardiff's run rate with an impressive 12 runs off 32 balls, including two wickets.

Star of the show, though, was county player Jack Davies, with statistics of one run off 20 balls and two wickets. Cowbridge ran out comfortable winners, with Cardiff High bowled out for 68 for 15 overs.

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LOCAL MARTIAL ART STUDENTS PASS 'DAN' GRADE TESTS

THE British Tae Kwon Do Control Board (BTCB), held its 87th Dan Grade promotion test in Mansfield for more than 170 candidates.

After months of hard work and intensive training, four students from Wales Taekwondo based in the Vale successfully took their Dan Grade promotion tests on May 8-9.

Ryan Mackeprang, Kevin Hiscock, Sasha Walters and Ian Mullen participated in the biggest grading that the BTCB have held to date, with 95 candidates taking their 1st Dan black belt test on the Saturday and more than 70 candidates taking their 2nd Dan and above promotion tests on the Sunday.

The chief examiner and head of the BTCB technical committee, Master Lennox, said that despite the large number of candidates, the standard had been the highest the judging panel had seen.

There had been several failures over both days demonstrating that it was no mean feat to achieve the standard that the examining board was looking for in order to gain promotion.

However, all four can-

BARRIVALE BRIDGE CLUB

Members compete in national event

THE Perry Shield open teams and the Ladies' Spickett Bowl, both took place recently in Llandrindod Wells.

The competitions between the four areas of Wales, east, mid, north and west are held annually. Three Barrivale players played in the winning east Wales teams. Tim Barsby was in the Perry Shield and Joan Jenkins and Noelle Bond were in the Spickett Bowl.

Club open pairs championship, Tuesday, May 11 and Tuesday, May 18:

First, Mike Close and Mike Best - 63.64 per cent; Alan Jones and Lyn Matthews - 54.28 per cent; Noelle Bond and Joan Jenkins - 53.97 per cent. The open pairs handicap winners were Alan and Lyn.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information ring 01446 733425.



ABOVE: Paul Jones pictured with his students.

didates from Wales stepped up to the mark and demonstrated great skill, technical ability and etiquette in their tests leading to huge success.

All students had to complete a patterns section, destruction and a range of sparring and self-defence techniques and had to pass patterns and at least one of the other two sections in order to be promoted.

Ryan Mackeprang took his 1st Dan promotion test as the only junior from Wales and passed all three areas with flying colours, proving that dedication and determination really does pay off and result in a fantastic performance.

Kevin Hiscock also took his 1st Dan promotion test and demonstrated an excellent standard again passing all three areas exceptionally well. Both students have now been promoted to black belt and begin their journey to become fully capable martial artists.

Sasha Walters took her 2nd Dan promotion test the following day and passed all three areas to a high standard, receiving praising comments from the examiners upon completion.

Ian Mullen was the highest grade from Wales and took his 3rd Dan promotion test, passing all elements to such a high degree that the chief examiner informed him

that he was "technically excellent" during the post grading presentation.

Master Paul Jones, chief instructor of Wales Tae Kwon Do, was exceptionally proud of all four students' performance.

Overall, the event was a great victory for all participants and Wales Tae Kwon Do in general. It showed the passion that the students have for the art.

The whole team from

Mini Dragons enjoy their south coast tournament

RECENTLY, Barry Welsh Dragons under-10s and under-11s travelled to the Isle of Wight to take part in a football tournament.

The weather was perfect and teams from all around England played a full day of football. For the under-10s, there were goals from Harry Williams, Jackson O'Sullivan and Ashleigh Taylor Moore, and they had plenty of opportunities on goal as a result of some terrific play from Anthony Cannon, Cameron Pemberton and Lucy Hinder.

In defence, tackle master Sabian Griffiths just could not be beaten.

Jac Marshall in goal finished the fantastic line-up.

The under-11 contingent was just as keen to show the English how well they could play.

Frustration was evident from the opposition as it soon became clear that they would not buckle under pressure, and every game they played was drawn.

In goal was Tyler James Ude, defence was led by Ewan O'Sullivan, Alex Glass and Bradley Johns with Ben Brown, Thomas Hubbard and Dean Clarke in midfield and Macauley Ross up front. Ffion Thomas was unable to play, as she broke her wrist the day before the tour!

All of the boys and girls were presented a

Welsh point-to-pointers

Lady Myfanwy and Oca De Thaix fought out the finish of the Susan Guest Memorial Ladies' Open Race at the Golden Valley Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Bredwardine on Saturday.

It was the former, who is qualified with the Ystrad Taf Fechan Hunt, which emerged the winner.

Lady Myfanwy, owned by Paul Miles and trained by his wife Myfanwy, jumped the last fence just ahead of Oca De Thaix and went on to win by one-and-a-half lengths. Lady Myfanwy was ridden by Sally Randell, who was full of praise for the prolific bay mare who has now won 23 times and these wins include three hunter chases.

Oca De Thaix, an eight-year-old bay gelding, was partnered by his

owner Charlotte Evans, who was riding in a point-to-point for only the second time.

Paul and Myfanwy made it a day to remember when their four-year-old chestnut gelding Findley's Find romped home 12 lengths ahead of Sheran in the second division of the young horse maiden race.

Findley's Find, who once cost a previous owner Harry Finlay £105,000, was ridden by 30-year-old Gwyn Marsh who had time to look around in the closing stages of the race for non-existent dangers.

Jay Ell The Trier, who is qualified with the Glamorgan Hunt, finished third under Kevin O'Keefe, and could lose his maiden tag before the season ends.

Marsh, who hails from Hengoed but who now lives in Somerset, was riding only his second winner and only came in for the ride after a number of other riders had turned it down.

The first division of this race also went to Wales when Clover

Rock, partnered by Wales' leading rider John Mathias, held off the strong challenge of GetMeOutThe Doldrums, ridden by Mark Wall, to win by a neck. Clover Rock, a seven-year-old brown gelding, was bought in Ireland by John's uncle Richard Mathias, and should go on to better things.

In the men's open race, Welsh hopes rested with the favourite Minsgill Mans ridden by John Mathias. However, the prolific 12-year-old couldn't go the pace in the closing stages and was outpaced by the winner Waynesworld (Tom Weston) and SheKnowsYouKnow (Mark Wall).

There were four lengths between the winner and runner-up and a

further four lengths between the runner-up and Minsgill Mans. The fourth horse to finish was the 14-year-old grey Ross River who, ridden by his owner/trainer/ride Evan David, at one time looked like springing a surprise.

Mr PHD Wright's Comrade Bob (Luke Morgan) had one-and-a-half lengths to spare over Arbour Hill in the 17-strong restricted, in which the Pentyrch qualified Tostaky ran well for a long way before fading out.

The aged maiden race went to the favourite Smoker's Choice (Jeremy Mahot) who won by two-and-a-half lengths from Market Bob (Rob Hodges).

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03 03 MAZDA MX5 1.8i option pack in strada blue with black sports interior, c/d, alloy wheels, e/c windows, heated rear screen, only 83,750 miles.....£5,495



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53	FORD Galaxy 1.9TDDi Ghia 6-speed.	In met silver, 61,000 miles, high spec diesel, 7 seater	£6,995
05	VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 SXi 3-Dr (New Shape).	In met blue, 40,000 miles	£6,495
56	TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 T3 3-Dr.	In silver, 21,000 miles, very sought-after model at	£6,295
07	RENAULT Clio 12 Expression 3-dr.	In steel blue, 33,000 miles with a/c, c/d, etc	REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995
55	FORD Focus 1.5 Diesel LX Estate.	In silver, 77,000 miles with CD, air con etc.	£4,995
54	FORD Focus C Max 1.6 TDi.	Magnum grey, 36,000 miles, outstanding value & economy	£5,995
04	TOYOTA Corolla 2.0 D4D T3 5-dr.	In silver, 54,000 mile diesel with sat-nav	£5,995
53	FORD C-Max 2.0 Diesel Ghia.	In light blue metallic, 27,000 miles, superb value at	£5,995
55	NISSAN Primara 2.0 SX 5-dr.	In silver, 35,000 miles with sat-nav, alloys, reversing camera.....	£5,495
56	VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi+ 5-Dr.	Blue, low mileage, with half-leather trim, etc.	£4,995
55	MITSUBISHI Colt 1.5Di - D Equipe 3-dr.	In met-grey 41,000 miles, diesel hatch with low running costs.....	£4,995
55	VW Polo 1.2 3-Dr.	In jazz blue, 35,000 miles, very nice example at	£4,995
54	PEUGEOT 307 XSi 3-Dr 2.0 HDi.	In black, 69,000 miles, superb looking diesel at	£4,995
54	RENAULT Megane VVTi Privilege Automatic 5-dr.	Met grey, half leather trim, low mileage	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995
54	KIA Sedona 2.9 Diesel SE 6-Seater	In met. champagne with grey leather trim, 80,000 miles, with s/r, a/c etc.	£4,995
57	RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus.	In steel blue, 37,000 miles, fantastic value at	£4,795
55	FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style Climate 3-Dr.	Silver, 47,000 miles	£4,495
55	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport 3-Dr.	In silver, 41,000 miles, air con, alloys etc	£4,495
06	CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 Sport 3-dr.	In black, with black leather trim, 37,000 miles	REDUCED BY £700 TO £3,995
04	FORD Fiesta 1.4 Flame.	In electric blue, low mileage example with alloys, cd, etc.	REDUCED BY £500 TO £3,995
56	CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0SE 5-dr.	In silver, 10,000 miles with a/c, cd, etc	£3,995
06	FORD Ka 1.3 Collection.	In Apple green, 23,000 miles with cd, e/w, c/l	REDUCED BY £800 TO £3,995
03	SAAB 95 2.2TDi.	In silver with black leather, 93,000 miles, solid diesel saloon at	£3,995
04	FIESTA 1.2 LX 3-Dr.	In silver, 56,000 miles, alloys, CD etc.	£3,995
05	CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SX.	Silver, 44,500 miles, excellent value family car	£3,695
04	FIESTA 1.2 Finesse 3-Dr.	In black, 65,000 miles, one lady owner	£3,495
52	VW Polo 1.2 5-Dr.	In silver, 70,000 miles, 1 local owner	£3,495
53	FORD Ka Collection.	Met Green, 47,000 miles, very attractive low mileage car	£3,295
54	DAEWOO Lacetti 1.6 SXi 5-dr.	In light jade met, 53,000 miles, full service history	£2,995
54	DAEWOO Kalos 1.2 Extra Cool.	In red, 42,000 miles with CD, air con etc.	£2,995
04	FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 5-Dr.	In met grey, 43,000 miles, economical motoring at	£2,995
53	FORD Ka 1.3i	In blue, 48,000 miles, 1 local owner	£2,995
51	RENAULT Clio 2.0 Sport 172.	In met-red, very nice example at	£2,995
53	DAEWOO Matiz SE.	Silver, 25,000 miles, outstanding value	£2,695
53	DAEWOO Matiz 796cc Extra.	In met bronze, 42,000 miles with CD	£2,495
52	DAEWOO Tacuma 1.6SX.	In met-red with cd, a/c, alloys	£2,495
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04 54 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3
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Finance example

Amount of credit:
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35 Monthly payments
of £163.06
Final payment of £462.06
Total charge for credit
£1194.16
Total amount payable
£6169.16
Weekly equivalent £39.55

APR 14.82%

*Photos are indicative only

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- 09 58 CITROEN C2 1.4 VTR 3-dr. Black, 8k ... £7,475
06 56 FORD Fiesta Ghia 5-dr. Leather, Black, 30k ... £6,975
07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 3-dr. Silver, 14k ... £6,475
07 07 FIAT Punto 1.2 5-dr Dynamique. 6k, blue ... £5,975
07 07 CITROEN C3 1.4i 5-dr Desire. Black, 11k ... £5,975
04 54 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3VVT Met blue, 17k ... £5,975
07 07 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style. Silver, 24k ... £5,750
07 07 RENAULT Campus Clio 5-dr. Blue, 39k ... £4,975
05 05 FORD Fiesta 1.25 LX 5-dr. Silver, 38k ... £4,975
03 03 PEUGEOT 206 HDI 3-dr. Silver ... £3,450
03 53 HYUNDAI Getz 1.3 3-dr. Red, 65k ... £2,975
05 05 CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 5-dr SE Silver, 50k £2,950

Family Cars

- 06 56 TOYOTA Corolla T3 1.6 5-dr. Silver, 50k ... £6,975
04 04 PEUGEOT 407 Turbo CDI. Met blue, 60k ... £5,975
07 07 MITSUBISHI Lancer 1.6 Equipe.
Met Grey, 24k ... £5,475
04 04 FORD Focus 1.8i Edge 3-Dr. Met blue, 60k £4,975
04 04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 TDi 3-dr. Blue, 60k £4,975
05 05 FORD Focus Zetec 1.8 TDi 3-dr. Blue, 70k £4,650
04 54 FORD Focus Ghia Saloon 1.6 4-dr.
Silver, 55k ... £4,495
03 53 HONDA Civic 1.6i V-Tec S Met Blue, 55k ... £3,950

Estates & MPVs

- 06 56 TOYOTA RAV 4x4 2.0 TDi 5-dr.
Black, 40k ... £10,975
05 56 PEUGEOT 307 SW TDCi 5-dr. Blue, 40k ... £7,975
06 56 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi EXYC MPV
Red, 30k ... £6,975
04 04 SUZUKI Jimny 1.3 Mode SW. Red/silver ... £6,475
06 56 RENAULT Scenic 2.0 WT Dynamique
Blue, 22k ... £5,975
06 56 CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SXi 5-dr MPV.
Red, 24k ... £4,475
02 52 RENAULT Scenic 1.9 TDi.
One owner, 70k, black ... £3,495

Sports & Executives

- 04 04 MERCEDES 500 SL Cabriolet.
Silver, 80k ... £18,975
05 05 BMW 330Ci Sports Coupe.
Leather, 30k ... £10,975
04 04 CITROEN C4 1.6 VTR Sports Coupe.
Met. Green, 50k ... £5,975
03 03 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VTTi 3.0 Sports Coupe.
Silver, 60k ... £5,975
05 05 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.8i 5-dr Sports Coupe.
Black, 50k ... £4,475

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09 09 FORD Fiesta Zetec 1.4 5-dr. Tango red, only 2,500 miles!
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07 07 TOYOTA Verso TS 1.8 mpv. Silver, only 23,000 miles!
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09 09 PEUGEOT 207S 1.6 TD 5-dr hatch. Neysha blue, only 13,500 miles!
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07 07 VW Golf 1.6 5-dr. Steel grey, only 10,000 miles!
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07 07 CITROEN Xsara Picasso VTX 1.6 mpv. Silver, only 14,000 miles!
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07 07 FORD Fusion Zetec Climate 1.4 5-dr. Tonic, only 14,500 miles!
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GEM sport



Left to right: Ricky Woodman, Levi Jenkins and Richie Canning.

THREE OUT OF THREE FOR BRIDGEND BOXERS

BRIDGEND ABC held its first dinner show on May 8 in Cowbridge Leisure Centre.

The event had more than 300 spectators watching some top quality boxing with a Welsh select against a Bedford select. All three Bridgend boxers won on their home show.

First up, boxing for Bridgend was Richie Canning, against Stephen Spooner. The fight started at a fast pace with Canning pushing his opponent onto the back foot, working fast combinations to body and head.

The second round saw the same, Canning outclassing Spooner with his speed.

With the home crowd firing him up, the third round saw him push for the stoppage with two standing counts within seconds of each other. The referee had no choice but to stop the contest after the third standing eight count.

Next from Bridgend was Ricky Woodman, boxing against Myke McGartland. Woodman starting well, boxing off his jab and following up with his combinations. McGartland was trying to push Woodman back

to use his advantage, landing with a big right hand.

Woodman took this shot well and got back to his boxing, landing with his own clean shots. The second round saw Woodman keeping the fast pace up and working his opponent's body as well as the head.

With a close third round, the fight was awarded to Ricky Woodman on a majority decision.

Last to box from Bridgend ABC was Levi Jenkins against Clinton Batise. Jenkins was under pressure to keep the Bridgend team win-

ning, and started the first round well, boxing off his jab and countering his opponent. The second round saw the same, but Jenkins picked up the pace, his opponent showing good heart and sticking with Jenkins.

The third and final round saw Batise pushing the pace, knowing he was down on points. This suited Jenkins, who landed with a hard right hook to the head forcing the referee to give a standing eight count. The fight ended with a unanimous decision to Levi Jenkins.

Local boxer in GB team



Andrew Selby. GB BOXING has selected a 12-man team to compete in the forthcoming European Championships in Moscow and Andrew Selby of Barry is in the team, which is made-up of nine English boxers, two from Wales and one Scot.

GB Boxing's men have won 16 medals in three major international competitions in 2010. In February, the team landed three bronze and a gold for Andrew Selby at the Bocska in Hungary. The GB team won a medal in every weight category at the Commonwealth Federations in March when it secured four gold, one silver and five bronze.

Chance to coach youth team

PORHCRAWL RFC Youth team is looking for both a forwards and backs coach for next season (2010-2011).

A club spokesman said: "This is an ideal opportunity for an up-and-coming coach to take their experience level to a higher degree.

"Also, any players who may be interested in playing for this talented side (plans for an overseas tour are already being discussed) are more than welcome to come along to the first training session in early July.

"The youth team will be playing an American team from Chicago on the last weekend of July, so this will be an ideal opportunity for any new faces to settle in."

For more information contact Porthcawl RFC on 01656 784242.

DG

Has this trio set a new record?



ABOVE (left to right): Hole in one aces Ian, Rhodri and Don Booth.

THREE generations of one family are celebrating what may well be a unique golfing record!

The Booth family have been members at Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club for many years, with Don and his son Ian both joining in the 1960s.

Now, Ian's son Rhodri plays at the club as well, and he proved to be the final piece in the jigsaw, after he had a hole-in-one at the par three fourth.

The first family member to ace the fourth was, not surprisingly, the eldest, Don.

Next, Ian repeated the feat some years later, and now Rhodri has joined the illustrious group.

Members at the club are wondering if this is a record, and it is certainly true that P & K does not make it easy, with only four par-threes, compared to some other courses which have five or six.

What is more, the fourth is no easy par three, as it has a very well protected green, surrounded by cavernous bunkers. Pitching short and running onto the green is not an option, as the ball inevitably finds the sand.

On the same weekend

that Rhodri aced the fourth, Tom Beale also holed out, but this time on the sixth green. Tom is junior club champion and is noted for his accuracy.

Tom is a member of the successful and vibrant Pyle and Kenfig junior team, which Rhodri has also played for.

Pyle and Kenfig has recently introduced new grades of membership to encourage would-be golfers and societies are very welcome by prior arrangement.

For more information, visit www.pandkgolfclub.co.uk or telephone 01656 783093.

JMcK

Porthcawl Comprehensive produces Welsh wonders!

AFTER quality performances in the Bridgend and South Wales 5 x 60 tournaments, Porthcawl Comprehensive's key stage four team played in the Welsh Basketball final at Glyn Dwyrr University in Wrexham.

With two 5 x 60 tournament wins leading up to the event, and just two games between the team and the title, spirits were high.

Judging by the tempo with which the starting

five began the first match against Flintshire's Argoed High, Porthcawl were in no mood to settle for anything other than a comprehensive victory.

From the tip off, which Lee Arrowsmith directed into the arms of Jacob Lane, who scored with the first movement of the game, Porthcawl never looked back.

Great passing and movement, combined with relentless defensive work opened up a very comfortable lead, and allowed the whole squad to contribute superbly to run out victors by 61-15.

Not only did the game

provide an excellent start to the finals, it also sent out a message to rivals that Porthcawl would be a force to be reckoned with.

However, as the other semi-final demonstrated, the path to victory would be far from one-sided as Cantonian High School Cardiff brushed aside Denbigh High to claim a comfortable victory. South Wales schools basketball was displaying a show of strength with two excellent wins.

Porthcawl started well in the final, and held a 10-point lead into the final quarter with some

superb individual performances.

The starting five all displayed their value to the team, with Andrew Emery and Lee Arrowsmith harassing and dominating defensively. Jacob Lane and Brad Robinson clinical in attack, combined with the silky skills of Hayden Lau, who continued the superb standard from the semi-finals to claim player of the tournament, creating and controlling in centre court.

The final quarter, however, proved to be a much more tense affair than anticipated, as a spirited Cantonian side pressed and harried Porthcawl into mistakes, at one point closing the gap to just three points.

However, a tactical timeout called by head of PE Andrew Stradling managed to calm nerves, and Porthcawl regained their composure to end the match victors by 62-54 and basketball Wales Junior Welsh champions!

A proud Mr Stradling commented: "The team is made of a very good group of sportsmen and women. The victory is a result of their dedication to training, and love of the sport."

Porthcawl would also like to thank Bridgend Council's Active Young People Department for their support throughout the tournaments.

DG

The lady golfers stray off course



THE ladies of Southerdown Golf Club recently embarked on a very successful spring ramble.

The walk was along the estuary at Ogmere to the rivermouth – the only un-industrialised estuary of any size in 100 miles of the south Wales coastline.

Starting at Portobello House, they were told of the former settlement

alongside the river and the horsefair which used to take place on the site of Southerdown Golf Club.

Each lady was given a pamphlet explaining why our area gained a certain notoriety in the London newspapers of 1886!

A very warm welcome and a delicious lunch at Franklin's Café, Ogmere-by-Sea, concluded a pleasant morning in the sunshine.

Bridgend triathlete gets a new sponsor

GE CAPITAL, the financial services arm of GE, has announced that it is joining forces with Bridgend-based Olympic hopeful Helen Jenkins, and her coach and husband Marc, in the build-up to the London 2012 Games.

The GE Capital investment comes hot on the heels of the recent decision by GE to support the British Triathlon Federation, and its elite team at the Olympic Games.

Helen (26) won the World Triathlon Championships in Vancouver in 2008 and, as a result, is a high medal hope for 2012. She lives in Bridgend with her husband Marc, 33, who she met while competing on the triathlon circuit.

Marc is well remembered for heroically carrying his bike on his shoulders during the cycling leg of the 2004 Athens Olympics, despite being involved in

an accident that left the vehicle unusable. He has now become Helen's dedicated coach as she seeks to add to the British medal tally in London in two years time.

Helen Jenkins commented: "The support that I have received from GE Capital is a huge boost to my training programme."

Archery events at Llanharan

A LOCAL archery club is to host a top level tournament this weekend in Llanharan.

The Blandy-Jenkins Archers are hosting a world record status archery tournament on Sunday, May 30, where more than 50 archers will be competing at Llanharan Recreation Ground. The competition starts at 10am and is conducted in accordance with International Archery Federation (FITA) rules.

Gentlemen archers will be shooting at 90, 70, 50 and 30 metres, and lady archers at 70, 60, 50 and 30 metres. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded. Olympic 'recurve' bows, compound bows and traditional longbow-style bows will be used. Archers will be shooting in groups of four at 15 targets.

The club will also be hosting the Glamorgan Archery Association championships on Sunday, July 18. Blandy-Jenkins archers meet at Llanharan Recreation Ground, also called Llanharan Welfare Hall, on Mondays and Fridays at 6.30pm and Sundays at 1pm.

For more information about the club and its activities contact: Dave Thomas on 01443 671620 or Phil Lightwood-Jones on 01443 441068 or e-mail to jenkins@sky.com.

Blandy-Jenkins